

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, and the Fine Arts.

No. 622.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1839.

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(Stamped Edition, 5d.)

For the convenience of Subscribers in remote places, the weekly numbers are reissued in Monthly Parts, stitched in a wrapper, and forwarded with the Magazines. Subscriptions for the Stamped Edition for the Continent, for not less than 3 Months, and in advance, are received by M. BARNES, 3, Rue du Coq-St.-Honoré, Paris, or at the Athenæum Office, London. For France, and other Countries not requiring postage to be paid in London, 2s. 6d. or 1s. 2s. the year. To other countries, the postage in addition.

KING'S COLLEGE, LONDON.—SENIOR DEPARTMENT.—The CLASSES in THEOLOGY, the CLASSICS, MATHEMATICS, ENGLISH LITERATURE, and HISTORY, under the Superintendence of the Principal, and Professors the Rev. T. G. Hall, R. W. Browne, and T. Dale, will be RE-OPENED on Tuesday next, the 1st of October. The Classes for Private Instruction in Hebrew, the Oriental, and other Foreign Languages, will also be resumed. MEDICAL SCHOOL.—The Winter Session will commence on Tuesday next, when Professor Arnott will deliver the Introductory Lecture, at Two o'clock, P.M. precisely. CIVIL ENGINEERING, &c.—This department, under the Superintendence of Professors Hall, Moseley, Daniell, and Wheatstone, and Mr. Bradley, Mr. E. Cowper, and Mr. J. Tennant, will be re-opened on Tuesday next. JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.—The Michaelmas Classes will commence on Tuesday next. 28th Sept. 1839. J. LONSDALE, B.D. Principal.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—FACULTY OF MEDICINE.—SESSION 1839-40. The Classes will commence on TUESDAY, October 1, at Two o'clock, when Professor Charles J. B. WILLIAMS, M.D., will deliver a Lecture introductory to his Course on the PRINCIPLES and PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. The Course to continue on Wednesday and Friday at Six P.M. On the same day, at Three o'clock, Dr. GRANT will commence his Course on COMPARATIVE ANATOMY. The other Lectures will begin as follows: ANATOMY.—Professor Sharpey, at 10 o'clock. CHEMISTRY.—Professor Graham, ditto, at 11 o'clock. ANATOMY and PHYSIOLOGY.—Professor Sharpey, M.D., ditto, at 12 o'clock. MATERIA MEDICA.—Prof. Thomson, M.D., ditto, at 3 o'clock. SURGERY.—Professor Cooper, ditto, at 7 o'clock. MIDWIFERY.—Prof. Davis, M.D., October 3, at 9 o'clock A.M. Sept. 28, 1839. CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—FACULTY OF ARTS.—Session 1838-39. The Session will commence on Tuesday, the 15th October. Classes. LATIN.—Professor Key, A.M. GREEK.—Professor Malden, A.M. HEBREW.—Professor Hurwitz. ARABIC, PERSIAN, and HINDUSTANI.—Prof. Falconer, A.M. CHINESE LANGUAGE and LITERATURE.—Professor Rev. Samuel Lee. ENGLISH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE.—Prof. Latham, A.M. FRENCH LANGUAGE and LITERATURE.—Prof. Merlet. ITALIAN LANGUAGE and LITERATURE.—Prof. Popoli. GERMAN LANGUAGE.—Teacher, Mr. Wittich. MATHEMATICS.—Prof. Latham, A.M. NATURAL PHILOSOPHY and ASTRONOMY.—Professor Sylvester, F.R.S. CHEMISTRY (Practical Course, commencing in January). CHEMISTRY (Course for the Matriculation Examination in Arts at the University of London).—Professor Graham. BOTANY, Junior Class do. (commencing in April).—Professor Lindley, Ph.D. ZOOLOGY.—Professor Grant, M.D. PHILOSOPHY OF MIND and LOGIC.—Professor the Rev. J. Hoppus, Ph.D. ENGLISH LAW (commencing 4th Nov.).—Prof. Carey, A.M. JURISPRUDENCE (commencing 4th Nov.).—Prof. Graves, A.M. CIVIL ENGINEERING.—Professors De Morgan, Graham, and Sylvester. SCHOOLMASTERS' COURSES.—Professor Key, De Morgan, Sylvester, and Lindley.

CLAREY SCHOLARSHIPS. A Flaherty Scholarship of 50l. per annum, tenable for four years, will be awarded in 1840 to the best proficient in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy among the Students of the College under the age of twenty years. The Examination will take place in the second week in October. A similar Scholarship for proficiency in Classics will be awarded in 1841, and in subsequent years, alternately for proficiency in Classics, and in Mathematics and Natural Philosophy. Printed copies of the Regulations concerning these Scholarships may be had on application at the Office.

The Session of the Faculty of Medicine commences on 1st October. The Junior School re-opens 24th September. 2nd September, 1839. HENRY MALDEN, Dean of the Faculty. CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.—TO MASTERS OF UNENDOWED SCHOOLS AND USHERS.

THE EVENING LECTURES TO SCHOOLMASTERS AND USHERS in GREEK, LATIN, MATHEMATICS, and NATURAL PHILOSOPHY, will be resumed on WEDNESDAY, October 23, and will be continued on Wednesdays and Fridays, from Seven to Nine, P.M., during the Session. Fee of Admission to the four Classes, 10s. A Physician of eminence, actually engaged as Schoolmaster in unendowed Schools, or as Usher, and having attended the above Lectures during two Sessions, and submitted to Examination, may be recognized as Students of the College, and be eligible for the University of London.—Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the College. Sept. 24, 1839. HENRY MALDEN, Dean of the Faculty of Arts. CHAS. C. ATKINSON, Secretary to the Council.

MANSION HOUSE SCHOOL, HAMMERSMITH. Established A.D. 1830. The Course of Education for the Greek, Latin, English, French, Spanish, and Italian Languages, taught by the Principals, who have had 20 years' experience, and the elementary and higher branches of the Mathematics, Merchants' Accounts, History, Geography, &c., by Masters of first-rate abilities. Scrupulous attention is paid to the Moral and Religious Instruction, as well as to the Domestic Comfort of the Pupils. Many Gentlemen educated at this School have gained College honours; some are distinguished members of the learned professions, and others most successfully engaged in the commercial pursuits of this and other countries. Terms moderate.—Prospectuses may be had at the School, of William Knight, 6, Euston-place, Euston-square; Mr. Wacey, Bookseller, 4, Old Broad-street; Mr. Robinson, Bookseller, 40, High Holborn; or Mr. Baillière, Bookseller, 29, Regent-street.—S.B. A Physician of eminence attends the Establishment, without any charge to the pupils.

GOTHIC HALL SCHOOL, ENFIELD. MIDDLESEX, by T. WEARE.—YOUNG GENTLEMEN are liberally Boarded, and carefully instructed in English, at 25 Guineas per Annum; including the Classics and Mathematics, 35 Guineas per Annum. Washing, 25 Guineas per Annum.—Referees: Rev. J. Campbell, Kingsland; Rev. J. J. Davies, Tottenham; W. Tassie, Esq., 20, Leicester-square; D. M'Neil, Esq., Stock Exchange; Mr. Davies, Surgeon, 126, Holborn-hill; and Mr. Cavell, 2, Gray's Inn-place, Holborn.

EDUCATION IN FRANCE.—AN ENGLISH LADY, who has resided with her daughters in Paris for some years at a French Establishment for Young Ladies, is now in London during the Vacation, for the purpose of escorting to Paris any Pupils who may be confided to her care. They will have all the advantages of a good French Education in a most desirable Establishment; in addition to which they will not sleep in the ordinary dormitories, will regularly attend a Protestant church with lady herself and her daughters, and undeviating attention will be paid to their morals, habits, comforts, &c.—Unexceptionable references will be given and expected.—Cards of address, with reference for an interview, may be had at Mr. Hawksby's, Chemist, Berners-street, Oxford-street.

MARYLEBONE LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, 17, EDWARDS-STREET, PORTMAN-SQUARE. The Delivery of LECTURES at the above Institution will commence on MONDAY NEXT, Sept. 23. Terms of Subscription for the Lectures, Reading Room, Library, and Literary Meetings, Two Guineas per Annum, or 26s. the Half-year. Each Member is allowed to introduce a Lady to the Society. Classes for Instruction in French, German, Music, and Chemistry. G. H. GARNETT, Hon. Secretary.

SCHOOL OF DESIGN for the EDUCATION of ARTISTS and INSTRUCTION of AMATEURS in the THEORY and PRACTICE of DRAWING and PAINTING, possessing every requisite for the Education of Human Figures, anatomically, as well as in its full development of perfect beauty and expression, combined with the principles of Geometry, Optics, Perspective, and other branches of the Fine Arts, forming also a Probationary School for the Royal Academy.—A Vacancy for a Pupil in the House.—Terms may be had at 4, Charlotte-street, Bloomsbury, corner of Streatham-street.

ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.—NOTICE is hereby given, that the MEETINGS of the ELECTRICAL SOCIETY will be RESUMED on TUESDAY EVENING, October 1, 1839, in the Theatre of the Gallery of Practical Science, No. 7, Adelphi-street, West Strand, and that they will be continued on the Evenings of the First and Third Tuesdays in every Month, till the Mode of Treatment for the use of Students. The Chair will be taken at Eight o'clock precisely. Sept. 14, 1839. (By order of the Committee.) E. W. BRAYLEY, Jun. Secretary.

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR, No. 10, DEAN-STREET.

MR. CURTIS will commence his next COURSE of LECTURES on the ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY of the EAR, on TUESDAY, October 1.—For particulars apply to Mr. Curtis, at his house, 2, Soho-square.—Mr. C.'s Map of the Anatomy of the Ear, and Chart of its various Diseases, with the Modes of Treatment for the use of Students and Practitioners, may be had of all Medical Booksellers.

THE BRITISH & AUSTRALASIAN BANK, 35, MOORGATE-STREET, LONDON. Capital, £1,000,000 sterling. The Directors of this Bank do hereby give notice, that they transact every kind of banking and money business relating to the Australasian Colonies and New Zealand.

Bills and letters of credit are granted upon the colonial establishments of the Bank at an exchange of 10s. per cent. Approved bills, drawn upon parties resident in either of the said colonies, are cashed, or remitted to the colonies, at the rate made on the security of approved consignments to the colonies, and investments are effected upon the security of landed property in Australasia for account of parties ordering the same. Any person having business transactions in relation to the Australasian colonies, may obtain information and advice regarding the same from the Managing Director, who has resided in Australia, and every application respecting business meets with immediate attention.

By order, FREDERIC BOUCHER, Managing Director. July 31, 1839. Prospectuses, giving full particulars of the operations, &c. of this Bank, may be had at the Office, 35, Moorgate-street.

COUNTY FIRE OFFICE RETURNS.—TWENTY PER CENT.—NOTICE is hereby given, that the above RETURN will be allowed to such Persons as have completed Seven Years' Insurance, during the last year, in their next payments of Premiums and Deductions. 50, Regent-street, Piccadilly. J. A. BEAUMONT, Sec.

METROPOLITAN LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. FOR MUTUAL ASSURANCE.

Directors. John Allard, Esq. Thomas H. Hall, Esq. Richard Low Berk, Esq. Charles Henry, Esq. Edmund C. Buxton, Esq. Joseph Hoare, Esq. John Burgess, Esq. J. Francis Maubert, Esq. William Clay, Esq., M.P. Joseph Pease, Esq., M.P. James Dawson, Esq. John Taylor, Esq. Thomas Fowler, Esq. J. Schofield, Esq., M.P. Francis Fox, Esq. John Travers, Esq. W. Storr Fris, Esq. John Vaughan, Esq.

The Directors hereby give Notice to Members whose Premiums fall due on the 5th of October next, that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date. The leading principle of the Society is the APPROPRIATION of the WHOLE OF THE PROFITS (UNDIMINISHED BY AGENCY OR COMMISSION), by way of reduction in the premium of Members of five years' standing.

The Premiums of Members (who are the only Proprietors) are payable yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly on the 5th of January, 5th of April, 5th of July, and 5th of October, either of which several dates constitute the commencement of the Year to Members. Persons, therefore, desirous of entering the Society as Members on the 5th of October next, should appear at the Office on or before that date.

RICH. HEATHFIELD, Superintendent. Princes-street, Bank, Sept. 2, 1839.

GLOBE INSURANCE, Pall Mall and Cornhill, London. Established 1803.

Edward Goldsmid, Esq. Chairman. Henry Howson, Esq. Deputy Chairman. FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE, and ANNUITIES. CAPITAL, ONE MILLION STERLING. The whole paid up and invested, and entirely independent of the amount of premiums received; thereby affording to the Assured an immediate available fund for the payment of the most extensive losses, and without liability of partnership; which the Directors consider to be highly important to those who effect Insurances in the capacity of Trustees, or otherwise in the performance of a specific trust or duty. (By order of the Board.) JOHN CHARLES DENHAM, Secretary.

Rates and Conditions of Fire and Life Insurance, &c., may be obtained at the Offices in London, and of the Company's Agents in the Country. Insurances due at Michaelmas must be paid on or before the 14th October.

FREEMASONS' and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE, LOAN, ANNUITY, and REVERSIONARY INTEREST COMPANY.

Among the many advantages to the assured in this company are, the option of taking the profits in cash; adding to the policy, reducing the premium or receiving an annuity; effecting insurances upon increasing or decreasing premiums, and without participation of profits at reduced premiums; and of credit for half of the first five years' premiums; policies not forfeited if premium remains unpaid at the time of becoming due. No error, but only fraud, to vitiate a policy. Lives below the ordinary standard of health insured at a moderate, yet proportionate, increase of rate.—Facilities for effecting loans.—The business of the Company not confined to the Masonic body. Commission allowed to Solicitors and Agents.

A Director in attendance daily. 11, Waterloo-place, Pall Mall, June 28, 1839.

THE ALFRED HOME and FOREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE AND MUTUAL ANNUITY ASSOCIATION, 51, Old Broad-street.

Directors. Duncan Davidson Alves, Esq. Sir Woodine Parish, K.C.H. G. Ives Raymond Barker, Esq. Sir David Scott, Bart. Samuel Bosanquet, Esq. Robert Scott, Esq. Geo. Frederick Dickson, Esq. Ernest A. Stephenson, Esq. Hon. E. H. Grimston, M.P. Major Tulloch. Joseph Jellison, Esq. Arthur Wills, Esq. Wm. James Maxwell, Esq. The Hon. Eliot T. Yorke, M.P.

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Auditors. Edgar Currie, Esq. I. David Powell, Esq. J. J. D. Walford, Esq. Secretary.—Anthony Highmore, Esq. Solicitors.—Messrs. Maitly & Otter, 31, Old Broad-street.

Advantages of this Association. An ample subscribed capital for the security of the assured, with the essential advantages of a mutual life association. Assurers admitted to the same rights as the Shareholders, and eligible to become Directors and Auditors. Four-fifths of the profits divided every five years, by addition to policies or reduction of premiums.

Advances made to the assured, on giving security for future premiums at an interest. An important and peculiar feature in this Association is, that the assured may reside in any part of the globe, either by paying an extra premium, or, at their option, by an arrangement for a stipulated reduction from the sum assured in case of death abroad, but for Europe, Australia, the Cape of Good Hope, or the British possessions in North America, no extra premium or deduction is required. Premiums may be paid quarterly, half-yearly, or annually.

*** ANNUITY BRANCH.** THE PURCHASERS of ANNUITIES are treated as a separate body, their funds are kept distinct from those of the Life Association, and in addition to the following advantageous scale of four-fifths of the profits are divided among the annuitants every three years by way of bonus.

Table exhibiting the Rates of Annuities payable Half-yearly.

Age	Annuit.	Age	Annuit.	Age	Annuit.	Age	Annuit.
21	£ 5 0 9	35	£ 5 0 16	50	£ 7 10	65	£ 10 17 4
25	5 4 6	40	6 3 9	55	8 4 8	70	13 1 10
30	5 9 11	45	6 14 1	60	9 8 4	75	17 9 0

SCOTTISH UNION FIRE and LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 49, West Strand, and No. 79, King William-street, Mansion House, London; George-street, Edinburgh; and Dame-street, Dublin. Instituted 1826, and incorporated by Royal Charter.

Directors. Charles Balfour, Esq. Walter Learmonth, Esq. Richard Oliver, Esq. John Deane Campbell, Esq. William Fane De Salis, Esq. David Robertson, Esq. J. Gordon Duff, Esq. Hugh F. Sandeman, Esq. James Goodfellow, Esq. John Smith, Esq. John Kingston, Esq. Daniel Stoddart, Esq.

S. Mackenzie, Esq. Manager. The distinguishing features of this Corporation are, UNQUECTIONABLE SECURITY, and LOW RATES of PREMIUM, and a combination of all the important advantages hitherto offered to the Public both in the Fire and Life Department. Every Policy issued by the Corporation is subject to the imperative on the Directors, in the event of dispute or difficulty arising, to refer the question to arbitration.

Claims for losses in London are settled at the Office, 49, West Strand. FIRE DEPARTMENT. Fire Insurances effected at the usual reduced rates; and Policies may be transferred to this Office without extra charge, and on terms very favorable to the Assured.

LIFE DEPARTMENT. This Insurance effects Life Insurances either at Reduced Rates without Profits, or with Participation in Profits, of which two-thirds are returned at regular periods, without being subject to any deduction for charges of management.

Tables of Rates and every information may be had at the Company's Offices; or of the Agents throughout the Kingdom. No. 49, West Strand. F. G. SMITH, Secretary. And No. 79, King William-street, City.

ROYAL NAVAL, MILITARY, AND EAST INDIA COMPANY LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Under the gracious Patronage of the Queen.

Directors.
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Admiral the Hon. Sir George Cockburn, G.C.B.
Major-General Sir James Cockburn, R.C.H.
Captain Sir Thos. Troubridge, R.N. M.P. Lord of the Admiralty.
Vice-Admiral Sir Chas. Rowley, Bart. K.C.B. G.C.H.
Major-General Sir Alexander Dickson, G.C.B. K.C.H. Director-General Field Train Dep. and Dep.-Adj. Gen. Royal Art.
Major-General Sir Patrick Ross, G.C.M.G. K.C.H.
Lieut.-Gen. Sir Frederic Wm. Mulcaster, K.C.H. Inspector-General of Fortifications.
Prospectuses and every information to be obtained at the Office, 13, Waterloo-place.

WILLIAM DANIEL WATSON, Secretary.

THE LONDON AND WESTMINSTER REVIEW, No. LXIV, containing:

1. Carlyle's Miscellaneous Works.
2. Whitefoyle's: Hockley Songs.
3. Translations of the Arabian Nights, by Lane and Torrens.
4. Children's Books.
5. Heads of the People: French and English.
6. Oliver Cromwell, by Henry Hooper, Pall Mall East, London; A. & C. Black, Edinburgh.

Published this day, with the *Magazines*.

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND QUARTERLY REVIEW, FOR OCTOBER. Contains: 1. The Evangelical Review. 2. The Rule of Faith. 3. The Church of England defended against the Misrepresentations of Modern Seceders. The Periodical Press: the Edinburgh, Quarterly, and other Reviews. 4. Christianity in India. 5. Eminent French Divines. 6. Letters of Eminent Persons. 7. Labours of the Session 1838. General Literature, Ecclesiastical, &c.

London: W. E. Painter, 32, Strand.
Will be published on 30th September.

THE FOREIGN QUARTERLY REVIEW, No. XLVII, price Six Shillings.

1. Views and Objects of Mahomet in the Composition of the Koran.
2. Hungary—Mallat's History of the Magyars.
3. German Influence on the Civilization of Uncultivated Nations.
4. Industrial and Moral State of Belgium.
5. The Philosophy of Kant.
6. The Opium Trade with China.
7. Arabian Nights and their Origin.
8. Paul de Kock.
9. Des Chappelles and Whist.
10. Music Abroad and at Home.
11. Miscellaneous Literary Notices.
12. List of New Publications on the Continent, &c. &c.

Black & Armstrong, 5, Wellington-street, Strand.
On Sept. 30th will be published, in 8vo. price Half-Crown, with lithographic Plate and Woodcuts, No. II. of the

JOURNAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Colonel Le Conte's Prize Essay on Pure and Improved Varieties of Wheat lately introduced into England.
Mr. Stanley Cuy's Prize Essay on Rural Economy Abroad.
Mr. Dixon's Prize Essay on making Compost Heaps.
Mr. Handley's Prize Essay on Wheel and Swing Ploughs.
Mr. Cuthbert Johnson's Prize Essay on Liquid Manure.
Mr. Hopper's Prize Essay on Draining Turnips.
Earl Spencer: On the Gestation of Cows.
Mr. Walbank's Children: On Suck-Feeding.
Mr. Vauvot: On the Detection of Pregnancy in the Mare and the Cow.
Mr. Mann: On Plants Injurious to Clover.
Professor Schuller: On the Physical Properties of Soil.
Report of the London Annual Meeting in July, and of the Oxford Meeting (with awards of Premiums) in July, Prize Essays and Premiums for Stock, &c. &c.—Rules and Regulations.
Donations to the Library—List of Governors and Members to Sept. 4th.

John Murray, Albemarle-street.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE, No. CCLXXXVIII, for OCTOBER.

Contents:—I. Torquato Tasso; or, the Prison and the Crown. II. On the Feigned Madness of Hamlet. III. Casuistry. IV. Picture Exhibitions—National Gallery—British Institution. V. Goethe's Life and Works. VI. Whig and Tory Finance. VII. Ten Thousand a Year. Part I. VIII. Henry Grattan. Part II. IX. State Trials. Specimen of a New Edition.
William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh; and T. Cadell, Strand, London.

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW for OCTOBER.

1. Eminent British Statesmen—Sir John Elliot.
2. Trevelyan on the Education of the People of India.
3. Schism (The Prize Essay).
4. Captain Marryat's Diary in America.
5. Thompson's Life of Hannah More.
6. Florence; or the New Lord of the Manor.
7. The Iniquities of the Opium Trade with China.
8. Phillips's Life, Times, and Characteristics of John Bunyan. &c. &c. &c.

London: Ball, Arncliffe & Co. Paternoster-row.

THE OCTOBER NUMBER OF COLBURN'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE, AND HUMORIST.

Edited by THEODORE HOOK, Esq.
Contains, among various other interesting Articles:—
1. Emily, or the Unexpected Meeting. By the Editor.
2. Speech-making after Dinner. By Laman Blanchard, Esq.
3. How to Get on.
4. The Antidote to Love. By the Countess of Blessington.
5. Extracts from the Note-Book of a Physician, No. I.
6. The Widow Marrie. By Mrs. Trollope.
7. Letters from Ireland. By John Carne, Esq.
8. Life and Times of Peter Prigins.
9. A Day's Sport in the Maremma.
10. The Unknown. By the late Thomas Haynes Bayly, Esq.
11. Reviews of New Publications, &c. &c.
Henry Colburn, Publisher, 13, Great Marlborough-street.
* * * Sold by all Booksellers.

FRASER'S MAGAZINE for OCTOBER.

Price 2s. 6d. contains:
The Knights of Aristophanes. No. II.—The Legend of Becket. Part I.—The Elder Sacred Poets—Some Recollections of James Hogg. No. I.—The Churches—French Plutarch; I. Cartoucher's Highways and Byways. II. Little Poinsett—The Youth of Julia Howard—Continuation of Farmer's Essay on Shakespeare. By William Maginn. L.D.—Don Quixote, the Christian, and Spanish Question—Last Eve of St. John: A Lay of the Scottish Mist—A Passage in the Second Year of the Reign of Queen Victoria—Two Sonnets on a late Soaring Expedition to the Lords. By Sir Morgan O'Doherty.
James Fraser, 215, Regent-street.

TAIT'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE for OCTOBER, price One Shilling, contains:—The Last Cabinet Move, or Shuffling for Luck—Hemlockism of a Religious Maniac—The Queen's Commit-maker, a Legend of Tottenham Cross. By Mrs. Gore—The Lockhart and Bellamy Controversy—Recollections of Minna, the Spanish Patriot. By Mrs. Broughton—The Abbe Godard; an Episode on the French Revolution—Poetry—Literary Register: Mann's Six Years in Australia; The Rev. C. O'way's Sketches in Ireland, &c.—Political Register: Progress of Despotism; The Scottish Poor; Railway from Edinburgh to England, &c. &c.

William Tait, Edinburgh; Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. London; and John Cumming, Dublin.
Now ready, price 2s. 6d.
For OCTOBER.
(Edited by JOHN A. HEALD, Esq.), contains:—
1. The Odorous Kid Glove. 2. Qualifications of Quakers. or Prototype of Paradise. 3. Absence. 4. Lost: now first translated from the Latin. By Francis Bismarck, Esq. 5. Second Part of Goethe's Faust, concluded. 6. Our Cigar Box. By Arthur Wadham. 7. Rattles in the Isle of Man. 8. Recent Dramatic Productions. 9. Grandeur; or the Victim of Riches. 10. Census of Foreign Literature. 11. The most modern mental Authors, (in a Series of Letters). Letter I. Ferdinand Freilicht. 12. The Theatres. 13. Our Monthly Crypt. Physic and Physicians, &c. &c.
Sherwood, Gilbert, & Piper, Paternoster-row.

THE MONTHLY MAGAZINE, For OCTOBER.

THE NEW NUMBER OF THE METROPOLITAN, For OCTOBER, will contain:—
1. Italy, Past and Future. By Calder Coppel. 2. Barlowl's O'Dorney: an Autobiography. 3. To the Dead. By Major Leitch. 4. A Trip to Killarney. By a Barrister. 5. The Younger Sister: a Tale. By J. J. Aubrey. 6. Flowers. 7. Othello. From the German Edition. 8. A Pilgrimage from Fontainebleau to Scotland. By Miss Harriott Pigott. 9. Reviews, Notices of New Works, &c. in Progress, &c. Saunders & O'Leary, Conduit-street. Agents for Ireland, J. Cumming, Dublin; for Scotland, Bell & Bradfute, Edinburgh, and Smith & Son, Glasgow; to be had also of all Booksellers and News-vendors.

NEW ILLUSTRATED PERIODICAL.

With 7 Engravings. Part VI, price 8d. completing Vol. I. of the LITERARY WORLD: a Journal of Popular Information and Entertainment. Engravings: The New Great Seal; Club Chambers, Regent-street; Chancel of Stratford Church, restored; and three others. Conducted by JOHN TIMBS, Eleven Year Editor of the LITERARY WORLD, with 66 fine Engravings, also, Vol. I. of the Literary World, with 66 fine Engravings, 5s. 6d. cloth boards.
George Berger, Holwell-street, Strand.

THE SUNBEAM, Part XXI, contains more

than Fifty Articles, including Samuel Seymour, or the Life of a Man of Improbable, &c. Esq.—The Memoirs of Frank Wilson, by T. L. Lotherington—Important Reviews—Original Essays—Aphorisms—Tales—Romances—Poetry—with Leading Articles on the subjects of the Church, the State, Integrity—Morality—Sketches of Modern Poets—with a Waltz, and Three Songs, composed by Gunn, Grantham, Lee, and Minnail. G. Berger, Holwell-street, Strand.

This day is published, in fcap. 8vo. price 5s.

VOLUME FIFTH OF THE WORKS OF MRS. HEMANS.

Records of Woman—Vespers of Palermo, a Tragedy—Songs of the Old, and Miscellaneous Poems.
Vol. VI. will appear on the 1st of November.
William Blackwood & Sons, Edinburgh; Thomas Cadell, London; and John Cumming, Dublin.

Just published, in royal 8vo. price 10s. cloth.

AN HISTORICAL STATEMENT OF THE IMPROVEMENTS MADE IN THE DUTY PERFORMED BY THE STEAM-ENGINEERS IN ENGLAND, FROM THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE MONTHLY REPORTS.

London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. Stationers'-hall-court.

PAUL PERIWINKLE; OR, THE PRESS GANG.

On Tuesday, the 1st of October, will be published, embellished with two spirited Engravings, by Philz, to be continued Monthly, and completed in twenty Parts, uniform with The Pickwick Papers. Price One Shilling.

THE ADVENTURES OF PAUL PERIWINKLE; OR, THE PRESS GANG.

By the Author of 'Cavendish,' &c.
This popular work will be published in future by Mr. Tegg, of Chesham, where all orders are requested to be addressed, of whom also may be had new Editions of Parts I. to IV. London: printed for Thomas Tegg, 73, Chesham, and may be had, by order, of all other Booksellers in the United Kingdom.

PICKWICK ABROAD.—A NEW EDITION.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1839.

REVIEWS

Baer on the Climate of the Russian Possessions in America—[*Ueber des Klima von Sitka, &c.*]—*Bulletin Scientifique de St. Petersburg.*

THERE is no philosopher of the present day, to whom Physical Geography (a branch of knowledge fast rising into vogue) is more indebted than M. Baer. His Memoir on Novaia Zemlia, an analysis of which appeared in No. 560 of this journal, threw much interesting and valuable light on the climatology of the northern portion of the Old World, and pointed out those accidents of structure which screen us, and the inhabitants of Northern Europe in general, from the inclemency characteristic of the ice-bound shores of Siberia. The Memoir on the Climate of Sitka is a counterpart to the preceding, and appears to us to be so important a contribution to the science which explains the local phases of nature's laws, that we consider ourselves in duty bound to lay an account of it before our readers.

It is well known that the climates of the eastern and western coasts of North America differ in a remarkable degree, the milder climate being towards the setting sun, or, to avail ourselves of the felicitously ambiguous language of the Greek poets, the western being in every sense the Hesperian shore. Yet these two climates have not hitherto been represented with such numerical details as to admit of exact comparison; and to the vagueness of our knowledge in this respect may be ascribed the common theoretical opinion that the western sides of all continents are warmer than the eastern. We shall confine ourselves, in what follows, to general meteorological results, omitting our author's tabular statements; and, to the details of the climate of Sitka, shall be added, for the sake of contrast, some account of that of Nain, a missionary settlement in the same latitude, on the coast of Labrador.

In 1830, the Baron F. von Wrangell, well known for his scientific exploration of the northern coast of Siberia, was appointed governor of the Russian possessions in America. Towards the close of the following year he commenced at New Archangel, the seat of his government, a meteorological journal, which was continued till the beginning of 1835, with the interruption of only three months in 1832. His observations were registered four times a day, with some slight changes of system, which it is needless here to dwell upon, and which do not prevent the reduction of the whole to a form calculated to yield the results of a uniform method. In the course of last year, Baron von Wrangell placed at the disposal of the Imperial Academy of Sciences at St. Petersburg, all his papers relative to the north-west coast of America, containing, it is said, a complete history, natural and political, of the Russian possessions in that quarter; and from these papers, the learned academician, M. Baer, immediately selected the Meteorological Journal for the subject of his comments, bearing in mind the practical utility of studying accurately the climate of a country where it is very desirable, and yet not easy, to promote the cultivation of the soil.

New Archangel, on the southern Sitka Island (which is named, in some maps, Baranov Island), stands in lat. 57° north, or nearly in the same parallel as Leith, and as the settlement at York in Hudson's Bay. According to Baron von Wrangell's journal, the thermometer rarely descends there below 28° of Fahrenheit's scale, or four degrees below the freezing point, during January and February, which are the coldest months of the year. The mean temperature of

these months appears to be 34°. Here, however, it must be observed, that in a letter of the Baron von Wrangell, published in the *Dorpat Review*, he incidentally mentions six degrees of cold, which, according as he uses the Centigrade scale, or that of Reaumur, will bring down the thermometer to 21° 22', or to 19° Fah. However, we learn from the letters of his lady, that in December 1832, the air at Sitka was so mild, that no discomfort was felt from sitting in-doors with the windows all open. This is certainly a remarkable proof of the temperate climate of what is called the Fur Coast. But to return to M. Baer: he calculates the mean temperature of August, the hottest month of the year at Sitka, when the thermometer occasionally rises to 67°, to be 57° 7'. He then compares the variation of temperature throughout the year at Sitka, to that which takes place under the same parallel on the coast of Labrador, and also at a point in the middle of the continent, the temperature of which point is derived by calculation from Franklin's observations at Cumberland House (lat. 53° 57' N.), and at Fort Chippewyan (lat. 58° 43'). As this comparison exhibits in the broadest light that apparently anomalous contrast of climates which it is the business of the physical geographer to trace to the operation of constant laws, we shall here state the problem at once in the form of an abridged table:—

Mean Temperature.				
New Archangel.	Middle of the Continent.	Nain on Coast of Labrador.	Bergen in Norway.	
lat. 57° 3' N. long. 135° 13' W.	lat. 57° long. 106°.	lat. 57° long. 61° 20.	lat. 60° 24.	
Winter (Dec. to Feb.) } 34.7	- 4°	- 10.2	36°	
Spring 42.2	+ 27.2	+ 21.6	44.6	
Summer 56.3	66.2	45.6	58.5	
Autumn 47.8	30.7	36	47.7	

Hence it appears that in the parallel of 57° N., the mean annual temperature on the western coast of the American continent is 18° higher than on the eastern. The winter at Sitka is no less than 36° warmer than that at Nain in Labrador; while the summer heat of the former exceeds that of the latter place by 10° 8'. In the interior of the continent, the climate, as might be expected, runs further into extremes than in the vicinity of the sea, and while the summer is 10° warmer than at Sitka, the winter is about 38° colder than at the latter place. But in the interior, the extremes of heat and cold, particularly of the latter, far exceed those experienced on the coasts, the thermometer sometimes indicating cold of 20° or 30° below zero. Nevertheless, as the calculated temperatures of the middle of the continent, in the table above, are derived from observations made at Fort Chippewyan, in the immediate neighbourhood of a considerable expanse of water (Lake Chippewyan), it is probable that they exhibit more equability than properly characterizes the climate at a distance from such modifying circumstances. The rapid increase of temperature during spring in the interior, is a clear proof of the great difference there between summer and winter: the difference between April and May, is, in New Archangel 7° 5, in Nain 7° 9, and in the interior 19° 6.

However favoured Sitka may appear to be, in comparison with the eastern coast of America, it has yet an austerer climate than the western coasts of the Old World under the same parallel of latitude. Bergen, on the coast of Norway, closely resembling New Archangel in local circumstances, and situated above three degrees farther north, is nevertheless warmer than the latter place, as the table shows, in almost every season of the year.

In order to judge correctly how far the quantity and distribution of the temperature of New Archangel, compared with the temperatures of

the interior and eastern coast of the American continent, in the same latitude, will warrant an inference respecting the general distribution of the warmth of North America in that latitude, or respecting the course and direction of the isothermic lines at the various seasons of the year, it will be necessary to consider attentively the local circumstances of that place. New Archangel is situated on the island of Sitka, which is separated from the continent by several narrow arms of the sea, of small extent compared with the mass of the continent which overhangs Sitka on the east. On the west is the open ocean. Consequently, New Archangel may be said to have, not so much an insular, as a littoral or coast climate. In equability of seasons it must be considered intermediate between an inland situation and an island in the open ocean. At the same time, its natural circumstances, and those of the adjoining coast, tend to lessen the influence which the vicinity of the continent exercises on its climate. On the island are high mountains, one of which reaches an elevation of 4,000 feet above the sea. On the mainland also, near the coast, is a range of mountains, which impede the equalization of temperature between the shore and the interior. New Archangel is, consequently, cooler in summer and warmer in winter than it would be if not thus closed in on the eastern side; and observations made there indicate less perfectly the course of isothermal lines across the continent, than those made at the Columbia River, in situations more open towards the land. The mountains on the coast near Sitka are covered with thick woods. This barrier of mountain and forest checks the progress of the vapours from the sea, which, before reaching the summit of the ridge, fall in rain or thick mists, so that the lower strata of air on the coast loses a good deal of their warmth by the constant evaporation of so much moisture. It is the prevailing humidity of the atmosphere which renders the residence in Sitka so disagreeable, although it does not appear to be so injurious to health as is generally supposed. In the year 1828 there were reckoned, in New Archangel, 120 days on which it rained uninterruptedly; 180 days of interrupted rain or snow, and only 66 days of what could be called fair weather. That was not, by any means, an unusually wet year: according to the Russian navigator Lutke, it sometimes happens that, in a whole year at Sitka, there are but forty fine days.

The winter at New Archangel (34° 7 Fahr.) is warmer than the winter at Mannheim or Stuttgart, and is a medium between the winters of Turin (34° 4), and of Padua (35°). But at some of these places, on account of their distance from the sea, the winter cold is more concentrated, and, for a time, much more intense than in New Archangel, where frost and snow have less empire than in England. A frost of ten days' continuance is there a rarity, and the frosty days altogether hardly exceed twenty in the year: sixteen is perhaps the average. Consequently, as the ground is not deeply frozen, the snow never lies long: in general, it disappears as soon as it falls; and perpetual snow is found only in the recesses of the mountains. In the winter of 1836, at Sitka, there was hardly any snow at all. The port is open all the year; none but the small bays hemmed in by mountains and islands being frozen over in the winter.

The moderate temperature of the winter at Sitka offers no advantages to compensate for the deficiency of summer heat with which it is allied. Equability of seasons has everywhere a tendency to relax or to frustrate the efforts of the husbandman. In all the possessions of the Russian American Company, with the exception of the settlement of Ross, in lat. 38°, near Bodega, on

the coast of California, there is no corn grown, and those colonies must consequently be supplied with grain, either from the ports of European Russia, or from California, or from Ochotsk, whither corn is carried overland from western Siberia. It would be a great mistake to infer from the mean annual temperature of Sitka, which exceeds that of Bern, Stockholm, Moscow, and St. Petersburg, the capability of rearing grain. Moscow has a summer hot enough to ripen wheat; at Sitka, the warmth, instead of being thus advantageously concentrated in one season, is more equally distributed throughout the year, and is never sufficient to bring any grain to maturity.

The summer of Sitka (lat. $56^{\circ} 3'$) is considerably colder than that of Abo in Finland ($60^{\circ} 26'$), and even than that of Uleaborg, at the head of the Gulf of Bothnia, and hardly warmer than the summer in the heart of Lapland. In short, the summer temperature of Sitka is identical with that of those parts of Europe where rye either does not ripen at all, or else only in particular localities. And when it is considered that rye, on approaching to maturity, requires dry weather, and that the cessation of rain can never be reckoned on, with certainty, at Sitka, at any season of the year, it becomes manifest that its cultivation in that island is not likely to be attended with success. In Europe, the cultivation of rye goes further north than Uleaborg, but does not extend to Torneo: that of barley, on the other hand, extends beyond Torneo, through Lapland within the polar circle; and towards the ocean, it succeeds even at Alten, near North Cape, under the 70^{th} parallel of latitude. It is not much repressed by humidity, or the equality and consequent moderate warmth of the insular climate, as is evident from the success with which it is carried on in the Shetland and Faroe Islands. Hence there is reason to conclude that the cultivation of barley might be tried with advantage at Sitka; and, in fact, we learn that the first settlers there did actually make the experiment, and succeeded in it, though their recorded success has hitherto, we believe, moved no imitators. In some favoured spots on the mainland, Baron von Wrangell sowed barley, which ripened well, although the ground had been ill prepared for its reception.

In the vicinity of New Archangel, the Russians cultivate only a few potatoes, brocoli, and some garden herbs. M. Baer suggests that probably at no great distance within the mountains on the main land, and on their eastern slopes, might be found a climate favourable to the cultivation of rye as well as barley; a dry and hot summer there succeeding to the severe cold of winter. But the absence of any considerable rivers on the coast preclude the idea of great valleys penetrating the mountainous ranges; and it seems therefore more likely that the mountains skirting the shore have on their eastern side a table-land, the elevation of which would prove adverse to M. Baer's expectation of a genial summer temperature.

From Sitka we shall pass over to the eastern side of the American continent, in order to contemplate more perfectly the remarkable contrast of climates exhibited by the opposite coasts of the New World in the same latitude. The missionary settlement of Okak is situated on the coast of Labrador, less than a degree further north than Nain and New Archangel, and will therefore admit, with a very slight allowance for its nearer approach to the pole, of being compared in respect of climate with the last-named places. The journal of the missionary at Okak gives us near its commencement the ominous information that the month of August (1837) passed without snow. Yet this exemption is not experienced every year, for we learn from other

authorities that snow often falls in Labrador towards the end of August. In September 1837 snow fell heavily, and ice was formed, which, with the snow, continued through the winter. Near the end of this month the potato crop was dug up, and proved, for the situation, good; the produce of the garden, the brocoli, turnips, &c. were gathered soon after. November was ushered in by violent storms. On the 1st of December the bay was frozen, and by the middle of the month the ice along the coast was so firm that the Esquimaux travelled on it to Nain, a distance of sixty miles. The thermometer during this month varied from five degrees above to sixteen below zero. In January the cold increased, the mercury remaining, day and night, at from eight to eighteen degrees below zero. In April the cold was somewhat abated, but snow fell in great quantities, and the missionaries laboured in vain to expedite the disappearance of the snow by strewing it over with ashes and dark-coloured substances. They missed the exact position of their garden, and plied their melting process fifteen feet from the spot which they wished to disencumber. At length, by digging and carrying out the snow, they reached, on the 23rd of April, what they called the early beds of their garden, which then stood surrounded by a wall of snow ten or twelve feet high.

In the beginning of May, the missionaries, aided by the Esquimaux, continued to excavate the snow, which they found to lie eighteen feet deep on the spot destined to receive their potato seed. They sowed various garden seeds in the close vicinity of the frozen mass. Snow fell frequently in this month, but did not accumulate, the temperature being rarely either below or much above the freezing point. In June, the labours of the garden made greater progress, and the snow visibly diminished, yet it froze hard every night. It was not till the 25th of June that the ice broke up along the shore. July began with warm weather, the thermometer rising to 72° Fahr., but it suddenly changed, and new ice was formed on the morning of the 4th. Nevertheless the augmentation of heat was such that by the end of the month the snow had quite disappeared from the hills in the neighbourhood; but the heat, which for a day or two felt oppressive, terminated on the 28th with the setting in of cold sea fogs. This cool moist weather continued till the 28th of August, when the thermometer sank nearly to the freezing point, and snow fell on all the elevated ground in the vicinity. Thus it appears that at Okak there are hardly above two months of the year perfectly free from ice and snow; the latter accumulates on the plains near the sea shore in Labrador, to a depth of twenty or twenty-four feet, while on the western shores of the continent, in the same latitude, it melts almost as soon as it falls.

It now remains for us to lay before our readers M. Baer's explanation of that temperateness of climate which distinguishes in so remarkable a manner the Russian fur coast from the rest of the North American continent in the same zone. That learned Academician pointed out in a former memoir how Northern Europe is protected from the extreme rigours of an icy climate by the fortunate circumstance of having Novaia Zemlia and the submarine elevations extending from that island towards Spitzbergen, interposed between it and the ice formed or brought down by the great rivers on the coast of Siberia. In like manner he now shows that the comparatively temperate climate of Sitka is to be attributed to the configuration of the continent, by which that place is completely screened from the influence of the circumpolar regions. At a little distance north-west from Sitka, the peninsula of Alyaska, varying from twenty to sixty miles across,

stretches south-westwards above 300 miles, and beyond it, the line of its direction is marked for a still greater distance by the Aleutian islands. Thus the peninsula and its insular continuation, dividing for 700 miles the waters of the equatorial ocean from those of Behring's sea and the circumpolar ocean, leaves Sitka open to the influence of the former, and effectually screens it from the latter. This single cause, operating unremittingly, is sufficient to produce the anomalous temperature on the north-western coast which has been already described. Behring's sea, on the northern side of the peninsula, receives considerable quantities of ice both from the Asiatic and American shores, as well as through Behring's Straits. Its superficial current seems to run northwards, but there can be no doubt that a current from the circumpolar ocean runs underneath. Beechey found the water colder at some depth than near the surface. South of Alyaska there are no rivers of any magnitude on the coast for a long way down, and consequently the ice formed along the shore is in very small quantity.

The peninsula of Alyaska and the Aleutian islands form in general a range of very high land, which impedes the equalization of temperature between the atmospheric as well as oceanic regions, which it divides. On approaching those islands from the south, a sudden decrease of temperature is felt, and they are generally found wrapt in fogs, which mark plainly the line of separation between a warm and a cold sea. Perhaps there is no other region of the earth in which such striking change of climate is exhibited within such narrow limits as at Alyaska. In the first place, that peninsula divides the naked shores from those richly clothed with woods. The shores of Behring's sea are all bare of wood, nor can this be altogether ascribed to the violence of the sea winds, since, on the south side of the peninsula, trees are found growing in the most exposed situations.

Alyaska forms as remarkable a line of demarcation for the animal as for the vegetable kingdom. On the one side of that peninsula is found the walrus, an inhabitant of the polar circle; on the other flutters the humming-bird, the bright herald of the south. In the Aleutian islands, facing Behring's sea, the walrus is found in $56^{\circ} 30'$ north latitude, while on the south-eastern side of the peninsula of Alyaska, the humming-bird ascends in summer as far as Cook's Inlet, in lat. 60° north. The ice-fox is another animal the range of which southwards is limited by Alyaska. The Aleutian islands are not unfrequently visited by polar bears, carried thither on icebergs, which accumulate on their shores, and often remain unmelted till May. The humid atmosphere of those islands is favourable to the growth of grasses, and, according to Lutke, the island of Unalashka can vie in the luxuriance of its meadows with Brazil itself.

Having thus gone over M. Baer's luminous remarks on the climate of Sitka, we shall merely add the observation, that the equable climate of that region is as unfavourable to the increase of the fur animal as to the growth of corn. The British claim the sovereignty of the interior of the continent, as far as the mountains which run parallel to the coast at a distance from it not much exceeding fifty miles. In 1834 Mr. McLeod, a gentleman in the service of the Hudson's Bay Company, crossed the Rocky Mountains about two degrees north of the latitude of New Archangel, and traced for some distance a fine river, named by him Frances River, which turned northwards, and probably has its outlet north of Mount St. Elias. Mr. McLeod approached on that occasion within fifty miles of the boundary, or about a hundred miles from the nearest sea-coast. The right of hunting

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within the Russian American possessions has now, we believe, become vested, by purchase, in the Hudson's Bay Company. Such a transfer of right, not in itself perhaps a very valuable acquisition, is yet calculated, owing to the relative situation of the parties, to prevent much jealousy and dispute.

The Book of the Thousand and One Nights: from the Arabic of the Egyptian MS. As edited by William Hay Macnaghten, Esq. B.C.S. Done into English by Henry Torrens, B.C.S., B.A. Calcutta, W. Thacker; London, Allen & Co.

We little expected, when, in October last, we were called on to review Mr. Lane's translation of the Arabian Nights, that a like duty would again devolve on us within so short a period, by the publication of another version, which, if not ushered into the world like the former with every attraction of typographical refinement and illustration, is, nevertheless, well worthy of attention, as being made from the original Arabic, and from a MS. said to contain many tales entirely new to European readers. The publication, too, in this instance, of the original text, afforded us much satisfaction; for, although no less than three different versions—including the Calcutta edition of the first two hundred Nights—have already been made public, we were curious to see how much the present would differ from the preceding, and how far the opinions which we formerly expressed as to the authorship, and the probable age of the collection called "the Arabian Nights," would be confirmed by the present volume.

Since October last, Mr. Lane's translation has made considerable progress, and the second volume is nearly completed, the whole being executed in a manner which confirms and strengthens the opinion which we then passed on its general merits. His version continues to be faithful, and his style both vigorous and simple, admirably well suited to the subject, and to the shifting and variable demands of the original. The notes, too, make us daily more and better acquainted with the manners and customs of the East, and entitle the author to great praise for his criticism and erudition. There is, however, one point on which we must still differ from him, and on this subject we shall say a few words, before we proceed to consider the merit of the work before us. This is the much disputed one as to the authorship and age of these celebrated tales. Mr. Lane, in his preface, published with Part 10, for February, has adduced new arguments in favour of his opinion; we, on the other hand, have become possessed of undeniable facts, which, if they do not altogether settle the question in our favour, must be allowed to have great weight.

We formerly expressed our conviction that a Persian work, bearing the title of 'Hezâr Afsâneh,' (the Thousand and One Nights), translated into Arabic as early as the second century of the Flight, had, in all probability, furnished the type,—nay, the groundwork, of all the collections of Arabian tales bearing a similar title. This we maintained on the authority of a passage of El-Mes'oodie's history, entitled 'The Golden Meadows.' Mr. Lane himself has since examined the passage, and not only admits it to be authentic, but thinks it probable that "the general plan of the Arabian 'Thousand and One Nights' is borrowed from the Persian work," (see preface, p. ix). Thus far, then, we agree. But we further stated, that although we saw nothing in the version of the Arabian Nights, published by Mr. Lane, which was not strictly reconcilable with the manners and customs of Egypt, the same admission could

not be made with reference to similar collections current in other Eastern countries; we, therefore, directed attention to a distinction of some consequence in reference to this subject,—the difference between collections formed at Baghdad, Damascus, or Aleppo, and those made at Cairo, Fez, or Constantinople. Mr. Lane here differs from us; he is of opinion "that there are no works thus entitled, essentially and mainly different, and belonging to different ages as well as countries"; and that no differences in the copies now known to exist, are palpable enough to justify the conclusion, that the old 'Hezâr Afsâneh' of the Persians, translated first into Arabic, was gradually altered and augmented until it formed the present collection of Arabian tales; and lastly, that such discrepancies as occur in the various manuscripts "can easily be accounted for, in the same manner as those existing in the copies of the romances of Abou Zeyd, or that of Ez-zahir, and other similar works, which are committed to memory by the public reciters, and then transcribed from their dictation."

That such differences exist cannot be denied, for scarcely any of the known copies contain the same number of tales; the edition published at Breslau in 1825, is fuller than that translated by Galland; that of Cairo has still further additions; while that which is now in course of publication contains more matter than either of the former. Some, like that in the possession of Baron von Hammer-Purgstall, have been considerably augmented by short anecdotes taken from other works, such as the description of Solomon's table, found at Toledo, by Târik Ibn Zeyâd, at the time of the invasion of Spain by the Arabs; the journey undertaken by Moosa across the deserts of Africa in search of a city, the walls of which were said to be made of brass; the adventure of the poet, Ibn Shohayd, with Abou Amir El Mansoor, Wizeer of Hishâm II., Khalif of Cordova, all of which are borrowed from well-known historical sources, and have been added to the general collection.

But nothing tends so much to strengthen our opinion, as the fact, that the two copies of this work, at present in the library of the British Museum, differ, one considerably, the other almost entirely, from any of the printed editions; it being further worthy of remark, that both form part of the collection made at Baghdad by the late Mr. Rich, British resident at that city. One of these, numbered 7,404, is contained in three volumes; the first volume in quarto, the other two in small octavo. They are written in the sort of loose hand generally used by illiterate transcribers of popular tales, and seem to be a portion only of a larger work. There is nothing particular in the first volume. The introduction is the same, and the tales similar to those of other editions; but out of thirty-two tales contained in the second and third volumes, only one—viz. that of 'The Sleeper Awakened,' is to be found in the common editions of the Arabian Nights, and even that differs in some respects. The tales, in general, are either translations from, or imitations of the Persian. We read these tales with great pleasure, and some of them are hardly inferior to the stories already known in Europe.

The other MS. (No. 7,407),—a thick volume in quarto, of about 900 pages,—is still more remarkable, since not only are the contents almost entirely different from those of any known edition, but even the introduction varies considerably. Instead of the long account of the journey of Shahriâr to visit his brother Shahzamân, and the subsequent adventures, which give rise to his strange and brutal determination, and lead to the stratagem devised by Shaharzâd, the author says, in a few lines, that a king of Basrah, (or Bassorah), whose name was Shahriâr, son of Kâsim, son of El-ammâd, had a wife of such

extraordinary beauty, that her like was never seen among the daughters of the kings; that, having convicted her of adultery, he ordered her to be put to death, and swore that he would never marry a woman without ordering her to be executed the next day. This he continued to do for a long time, until his country was almost depopulated, and no maiden could be found to share the royal couch. At last Shaharzâd, the daughter of his Wizeer, resolved to marry him; she communicates her intention to her father, who, without the least opposition or admonishment, leads her to the royal presence. The stories put in the mouth of Shaharzâd, are, with few exceptions, entirely new. The work is divided into three parts. Part I. is composed of thirteen tales, out of which three only have been translated,—namely, 'The Sleeper Awakened,' 'The Fisherman Khalif, and the Khalif Fisherman,' and the story of 'The Crafty Dalilah.' Part II. contains seven tales, all new, among which there is a very interesting one, entitled 'The Story of Jehângheer, son of Jelâlu-d-deen, king of Mezandarân, and what passed between him and Bedra-l-ghiyâhîl, (Full-moon of the darkness,) daughter of the king of China.' The third part is nothing more than a translation of the well-known Persian tale of the Indian king and his ten Wizeers, otherwise the Bakhtyar Nameh, of which an English version was published, in 1801, by Sir William Ouseley. But the Arabian translator has taken so many liberties with it,—changing the names of the characters, altering some tales, adding others, and interspersing his narrative with so many poetical quotations, that it is not easy at first to discover the analogy. There is another circumstance in the MS. we are describing, worthy of remark,—namely, that most of the stories in the first part, even those where the scene is laid in Persia, India, and other remote countries, begin with these words—"There was in the times of Hâroon Ar-rasheed," &c., from which we infer that the author, or collector of the tales, was a native of Baghdad, the seat of that Khalif, and his descendants of the house of 'Abbâs, and chose to show his predilection for his native city, by constantly alluding to it.

These two examples, out of many which have come under our observation, will be sufficient to prove that there exist in the East many collections of tales essentially different from those hitherto known in Europe by the title of 'One Thousand and One Nights.' We do not mean that the existence of these tales affects in any way the main point we are discussing, since it is evident that these and similar collections, wherever they exist, are mere imitations of the former; but still we must come to the conclusion, that, either from caprice, taste, or other causes, the tales therein contained have been at different periods, and in various countries, so changed, as to form separate collections, more or less dissimilar from their original; and this fact being once admitted, we may likewise infer that the like changes may have taken place in the common Arabian Nights, respecting an old translation of the Persian 'Hezâr Afsâneh,' which translation must have existed, since so distinguished and accurate an historian as El-Mes'oodie mentions the time when it was executed. As to the Persian work itself, we see, by a late notice in the foreign papers, that Baron von Hammer, who has always taken great interest in this question, has lately discovered in the 'Fahrasat,' a Persian bibliographical dictionary, that the composition of the 'Hezâr Afsâneh' is attributed to Queen Umai, the mother of Darius, king of Persia; and although we believe the account to be fabu-

† The first is to be found in Scott, but the other two only in the French translation, from the MS. in the possession of Baron von Hammer-Purgstall, Paris.

lous, as far as regards the authoress, it proves, nevertheless, the antiquity of the work, since the bibliographer was obliged to have recourse to tradition.

We have a last objection to raise to Mr. Lane's opinion on this subject. That gentleman thinks (see Part 10, p. xiii,) that the 'Thousand and One Nights' were originally written in Egypt; that they were the work of one individual, or, at the most, of two,—one completing what another commenced, without a long interruption in the progress of the work; and lastly, that it was neither commenced earlier than the last quarter of the fifteenth century of our era, nor completed before the first quarter of the next century,—i. e., soon after the conquest of Egypt by the 'Osmanlee Turks, which happened A.D. 1517.

At what time and in what country the tales of the 'One Thousand and One Nights,' or first version of the Persian tales, (taking the above supposition for granted,) first appeared, is next to impossible to decide; for, although we agree with Mr. Lane that the manners and customs, as therein described, are those of Egypt, rather than of any other country inhabited by Mohammedans, yet we are of opinion that no great reliance is to be placed on such an argument, since the customs of the Mohammedans all over the east and west are modelled by the same regulating influence—religion; and since it is well known that copyists and compilers have often taken on themselves to alter or suppress those very particulars on which we might base our judgment,—such as the names of actors in the tales, the scene of action, the articles of dress, food, or drink, mentioned in the course of the narrative, &c.

As to the date of their composition, we are enabled to adduce a passage from a MS. in the library of the British Museum, giving satisfactory evidence that a collection of tales, entitled 'The One Thousand and One Nights,' existed at Cairo at least three centuries, perhaps five, before the earliest date fixed by Mr. Lane. This passage is to be found in the History of Spain under the Moslems, by Al-makkaree, No. 7,334, fol. 136. It is there said, on the authority of Abû-l-hasan Ali Ibn Sa'id, the author of a topography of Egypt and Africa, who arrived in Cairo, from Granada, in the year 639 of the Flight, (A.D. July, 1241,) and who transcribes the words of a much older writer, named Al-Kortobee, that Amer biahkâm-illah, the seventh of the Fatimite Khalifs of Egypt, who reigned from 495 to 524 of the Flight, (A.D. 1101—1129), built on the island of Er-raudhah (Rhoda), close to Cairo, a pavilion, called *Al-haudaj*, for a mistress of his, whom he loved passionately. She was a Beidawee, and being accustomed to the freedom and independence enjoyed by the people of her tribe, she could not bear to be thus confined between four walls; she, therefore, wrote to a youth, a cousin of hers, Ibn Miyâh by name, some verses, complaining of her confinement, mentioning, as among her pleasant recollections, the years she had spent under her father's tent. Her cousin's answer, which was also written in verse, and contained some bitter censure of the Khalif, having accidentally fallen into his hands, he ordered that the culprit should be arrested, and his tongue plucked out. The young Beidawee, however, contrived to secrete himself, and thus escaped. "These events," adds the author, "gave rise, at first, to many short tales, recounting what had passed between the Beidawee girl and her youthful cousin, Ibn Miyâh, and what happened to them, until a longer story was made of them, similar to the story of Battalah, and the tales of the *One Thousand and One Nights*."

There are two ways of understanding the

allusion in this passage: one, to suppose that the tales of the Arabian Nights are there mentioned as existing under the reign of the Khalif Amer, since we are told that the tale was written in imitation of them; the other, to infer that the comparison is only made by the author as regarding a work which existed in his own times. The former is most probable, and would throw the existence of the Arabian Nights back to the beginning of the sixth century of the Flight, or of the twelfth of our era, the date of that Khalif's reign. The latter, strictly speaking, would only prove that a set of Arabian Tales, entitled 'One Thousand and One Nights,' were already in existence as early as the age of the writer consulted by Ibn Sa'id, who, himself, wrote the preceding account in A.D. 1241. Nor can the passage be deemed an interpolation, for, besides that it is found in three copies of the same work, we can produce the authority of Makreezee, who wrote a history of Egypt, and who, in the description of the said pavilion, quotes the very words which we have translated. So that, whatever construction be put on the above remarkable passage, we must come to the conclusion, that the present collection of Arabian tales, or some other similar to it, and bearing the title of 'One Thousand and One Nights,' was current in Egypt long before the period assigned by Mr. Lane; and, if we admit, with him, that the manners and customs described in the Tales, generally known by this name, are those of Egypt in the sixteenth century, we must necessarily conclude that the tales existing before that period must have portrayed a different state of society, and were, therefore, either essentially different, or so altered by succeeding writers, as to adapt them to the state of society in which they lived, or the audience before whom they were recited.

We cannot doubt that Mr. Lane will avail himself of these facts, to illustrate a subject on which he has already bestowed so much research; and that his ability, and intimate acquaintance with the East, will enable him to settle a question so much discussed, and which has hitherto exercised, although in vain, all the ingenuity of the ablest Oriental scholars in Europe. Our own speculations, however, on this subject, have run to such length, that we must, for the present, defer our notice of Mr. Torrens's new translation.

A Lecture on the Management of Lunatic Asylums, &c. &c., with Statistical Tables. By Robert Gardiner Hill. Simpkin & Marshall. THE object of this lecture, we are told in the preface, "is simply to advocate the total abolition of severity of every species and degree, as applied to patients in our asylums for the insane; and with this view, to show,—first, that such abolition is in theory highly desirable; and secondly, that it is practicable." Mr. Hill, who is house-surgeon of the Lincoln Lunatic Asylum, has apparently designed this lecture, in the first instance, as a *compte rendu* to the subscribers to that institution; but he has done wisely in giving it a more extended circulation. The main proposition he has undertaken to establish,—"*that in a properly constructed building, with a sufficient number of suitable attendants, restraint is never necessary, never justifiable, and always injurious in all cases of lunacy whatever*," [p. 21,]—we believe to be substantially correct; and it is a fact no less consolatory than true. We have, on more than one occasion, pressed upon our readers the importance of an early separation of the insane from their customary *environnage*, and their immediate subjection to medical discipline. This is powerfully exemplified in a table of recoveries, subjoined to the Lecture, by which it appears that of 293 patients admitted within the

first year, 145 were discharged cured within the like period, and 7 more were ultimately recovered; of 37 cases admitted between the first and second year of their malady, 7 only were discharged cured after a year's treatment, and 1 more at the end of three years; and lastly, of 129 cases, of more than two years' standing, 7 were discharged cured in the first year, and 3 at a subsequent period. Thus it appears that after the first year the chances of recovery are materially lessened; but it also appears, that the rapidity of cure is affected in a like proportion. Of 181 cases admitted in the first three months, 68 were discharged in the same period; while of 112 admitted between the third and twelfth month, 13 only were cured in the like short time. These are facts of which the friends of the insane are bound to take cognizance, as of paramount consideration in their estimate of their duties towards their afflicted friends; but they are too much disregarded, however strenuously urged by medical advisers.

The reluctance which most people experience in placing a friend under seclusion in an asylum, arises principally out of an apprehension of the cruelties to which they imagine them exposed in such institutions; and such a feeling must surely give way when the system of treatment recommended by the author is adopted, of which mildness is the essential characteristic, and the amplest continuous inspection a satisfactory guarantee. The very aspect of handcuffs and strait-waistcoats is sufficient to strike horror in the strongest and best constituted minds; and these are wholly abandoned in the discipline of the Lincoln Asylum.

The danger most to be apprehended (as difficult to guard against) under a total absence of restraint on the insane, is that of suicide; and this, it appears, was fully and effectually obviated by the simple process of night-watching.

Of 334 patients, treated under a maximum of restraint during 101 years, two committed suicide, being $\frac{1}{167}$. Of 242, under medium restraint during 44 years, five destroyed themselves, being $\frac{1}{48}$. Of 246 under treatment, with minimum restraint, during 34 years, there was not a single case of self-destruction.

The impediments in the way of a general adoption of the Lincoln plan, are all summed up under the two heads of trouble and expense; and these, in fact, resolve themselves into the one consideration of money. The additional attention required of the attendants must be well paid, in order to their duties being effectively discharged; and the construction and distribution of the buildings rendered necessary for safety, require some considerable increase of outlay. A small addition, likewise, to the number of attendants seems necessary, where the severity of the duty would imply a more frequent relief. Where these points are assured,—where the labour of attendance is mitigated as far as possible, by an effective separation of the different classes of insane,—where the attendant is well paid, and constantly inspected in the discharge of his duty, the necessity of personal restraint on the sufferer must obviously be lessened; and the experience of Mr. Hill shows that it may be altogether dispensed with. Were nothing more gained by this improvement than the diminution of suffering to the unfortunate inmates, enough would be proved to render this additional outlay imperative with all feeling dispositions; but when its influence in shortening the disease, and adding to the chances of recovery, is shown, the advantages as a mere matter of economy cannot be doubtful. When the average duration of disease is shortened, the average number of patients at one time under treatment must be proportionately lessened. Some portion therefore of what is lost on the

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score of completeness of system, must be compensated by a diminution in the scale of erections. In a case of this kind, however, expense is a consideration scarcely to be entertained; and we trust that this appeal of Mr. Hill will find its way throughout the kingdom, and that humanity will not be suffered to sleep over his statements. The fundamental revolution in the treatment of the insane which this author recommends, if sanctioned by ulterior experience, will be one of the greatest and most glorious triumphs of civilization over prejudice and ignorance, of which modern times can boast. Most heartily do we desire its immediate success.

A striking feature in this volume, not to be passed over in silence, is the series of tables, exhibiting every instance of restraint, coercion, and seclusion, used in the Lincoln Asylum during nine years previous to their total abolition, (an unique document, we imagine, in the history of asylums,)—showing the numbers of patients restrained, and of the hours passed under its infliction. These tables are a valuable exemplification of the caution with which the governors of the Asylum have proceeded with the experiment; and, consequently, of the confidence which may be placed in the result.

Andrea of Hungary, and Giovanna of Naples.

By Walter Savage Landor. Bentley.
The author of the 'Imaginary Conversations,' as we have before remarked, is no ordinary man—gifted with a mind at once capacious and elegant, comprehensive and microscopic, profoundly read in all the secrets of scholastic lore, yet not less learned in the more difficult language of the human heart—we know not any author of the present day, whose name has a better right to be associated with those heirs of immortality, whose memories he has consecrated anew. Were we to attempt to characterize his genius, it would be by the one word "retrospective"—Mnemosyne is his Muse, and she, like the Cumæan Sibyl, though in gentler guise, has led him from the garish daylight of the present, into those twilight abodes, the "amena vireta" of the poet, and allowed him to hold solemn converse with many whose names are not yet forgotten on the earth.

The name of his present heroine is familiar to the generality of readers, not only for the individual interest which attaches to it, but also from the strange coincidence of fortune which links it with that of another, whose destiny is recorded in one of the darkest pages of our own history. We allude of course to Mary of Scotland, whose early life would appear to be little more than a revival of that old tragedy, which was first enacted in the days of the as-beautiful but perhaps less guilty Giovanna. Both in early youth united to individuals, whom they might be said rather to tolerate than to love—both widowed by means of assassination,—both accused of participation in the crime,—both suffering even now from the memory of imputed guilt!—where can we find a parallel at once more truthfully and curiously preserved? Mr. Landor's poem is divided into parts, the first of which commences with the marriage of Giovanna with Andrea, to whom she had been betrothed in her infancy, and concludes with the death of the latter at Aversa; the second part comprises the torture and punishment of the innocent Filippa and others, unjustly suspected of having been her accomplices in the deed, the citation and examination of Giovanna before the Tribune Rienzi, and her ultimate return in triumph over her accusers. Of these, the first part is our favourite: with the exception of the catastrophe, it contains but little of that painful interest, which belongs to scenes of human suffering, more especially when physical. It is all sunshine, rendered even brighter by the contrast of the thunder

cloud, which labours up the horizon in the background. Giovanna, as painted by the poet, is indeed an exquisite creation—witness her reasons for loving Andrea, how sedulously does she seek out each spot whereon the flower of love may grow in after-time:—

Filippa. Happy Andrea! Only fleas and friars
Molest him. Little he suspects the snares
About his paths; the bitter jealousies
Of Hungary; how pertinaciously
Mal'd hands grasp sceptres, how reluctantly
Loose them; how tempting are our milder clime
And gentler nation! He deserves our pity.
Giovanna. O! more than pity. If our clime, our nation,
Bland, constant, kind, congenial with each other,
Were granted him, how much more was withheld!
Sterile the soil is not! hard! hard! 'tis waste.
What buoyant spirits and what plant temper!
How impatient of reproff! how he wipes off
All injuries before they harden on him.
And wonders at affronts, and doubts they can be!
Then, his wild quickness! O the churl that bent it
Into the earth, colourless, shapeless, thriftless,
Fruitless, for ever! Had he been my brother,
I should have wept all my life over him;
But, being my husband, one hypocrisy
I must put on, one only ever will I.
Others must think, by my observance of him,
I hold him prudent, penetrating, firm.
No less than virtuous: I must place myself
In my own house (now indeed his) below him.
Filippa. I almost think you love him.
Giovanna. He has few
Even small faults, which small minds spy the soonest;
He has, what those who will never see nor heed,
Wit of bright feather, but of broken wing;
No stain of malice, none of spleen, about it.
For this, and more things nearer . . . for the worst
Of orphanry, the cruellest of frauds,
Stealth of his education while he played
Nor fancied he could want it; for our ties
Of kindred; for our childhood spent together;
For those dear faces that once smiled upon us
At the same hour, in the same balcony;
Ever for the plants we rear'd in partnership,
Or spoil'd in quarrel, I do love Andrea.

Who that has ever read the 'Decameron' can forget the sprightly Fiammetta, in other words Maria of Sicily, the sister of Giovanna? and who would not think himself too happy in having one glimpse of her, such as she appeared in the church of Santa Maria Novella, with "her bright ringlets falling on her fair and delicate shoulders, her round rosy laughing face, her little ruby mouth, and her eyes like those of a wandering falcon"? Scarcely inferior is her picture as sketched, not painted, below—

Maria. And now, Fiammetta, tell me whence that name
Which tickles thee so.
Fiammetta. Tell indeed! not I.
Maria to Giovanna. Sister! you may command.
Giovanna. Command a sister?
Secrets are to be won, but not commanded.
I never heard the name before. *Fiammetta.* . .
Is that it?
Maria. That is it.
Maria. For shame, Maria!
Never will I entrust you with a secret.
Maria. I do believe you like this one too well
Ever to let another mingle with it.
Fiammetta, to herself. I do indeed, alas!
Giovanna. Some gallant knight
Has carried off her scarf and bared her heart.
But to this change of name I must withhold
Assent, I like Maria so much better.
Fiammetta points to Maria. There is Maria yet.
Giovanna. But where twin-roses
Have grown so long together, to snap one
Might make the other drop.
Fiammetta. Ha! now, Maria!
Maria! you are springing, my little quail!
Giovanna. Fiammetta! if our father were here with us,
He would suspect some poet friend of his,
Dealer in flames and darts, their only trade,
Enchanted his Sicilian.
Maria. Ho! ho! ho!
Prosperine never blush'd such damask blushes
When she was caught.
Fiammetta. I am quite cool.
Maria. The clouds
May be quite cool when they are quite as red;
Girls' faces, I suspect, are somewhat less so. [*Fiammetta runs off.*]

Giovanna. Maria! dear Maria! she is flown.
Is the poor girl in love then?
Maria. Till this hour
I thought it but a fancy, such as all
We children have: we all chuse one; but, sure,
To run out of the room at the mere shadow!
Giovanna. What would you do?
Maria. Wait till he came himself.
Giovanna. And then?
Maria. Think seriously of running off,
Until I were persuaded it was civil.

As we proceed, we find the amour of the poet, with her who, like Diana, came down from

her sphere to mingle with him, running like a golden thread through the whole fabric of the story; and even when the woof itself is dyed in blood, we trace it still unstained and unbroken to the end. It is, in fact, a sort of episode to the main story, like a delicate interlude, winning us from the anticipation of the guilt and sorrow which we feel to be at hand. What can be more naturally beautiful than the following scene, the moral of which is "love triumphant over pride"?

Fiammetta. I do not know whether it be quite right
To listen, as I have, day after day
And evening after evening.
Boccaccio. Are my sighs
Less welcome in the garden and the bower,
Than where loud organ bellow'd them away,
And chorister and waxlight ran between?
Fiammetta. You sadly interrupted me at vespers:
Never do that again, sir! When I pray
I like to pray with all my heart. Bold man!
Do you dare smile at me?
Boccaccio. The bold man first
Was smil'd at: was he not?
Fiammetta. No, no such thing:
But if he was, it was because he sigh'd
At the hot weather he had brought with him.
Boccaccio. At the cold weather he fear'd coming on
He sigh'd.
Fiammetta. And did it come?
Boccaccio. Too gracious lady!
Fiammetta. Keep gracious lady for dull drawing rooms;
Fiammetta is my name; I would know yours.
Boccaccio. Giovanni.
Fiammetta. That I know (*aside*). I ought, alas!
Often with Acciaïoli and Petrarca
I've seen you walking, but have never dared
To ask your name from them; your house's name
I mean, of course; our own names stand for nothing.
You must be somebody of high estate.
Boccaccio. I am not noble.
Fiammetta, shrinking back. Oh! . . . then! . . .
Boccaccio. I must go!
That is the sentence, is it not?
Fiammetta runs and takes his hand. Don't tell me
Thou art not noble: say thou art most noble:
Norman . . . half Norman . . . quarter Norman . . . say it.
Boccaccio. Say an untruth!
Fiammetta. Only this one; my heart
Will faint without it. I will swear to think it
A truth, wilt thou but say it. 'Tis a truth:
Thy only falsehood thou hast told already,
Merely to try me. If thou art not noble . . .
Noble thou art and shalt be!
[*She sobe and pauses. he presses her hand to his bosom.*]
Who gainsays it?
Boccaccio. A merchant's son, no better, is thy slave,
Fiammetta!
Fiammetta, smiling. Now art thou disguised indeed.
Come, show me specimens of turquoises.
Amethysts, emeralds, diamonds . . . out with 'em.
Boccaccio. A merchant's, and poor merchant's, son am I;
Gems I have none to offer, but pure love
Proof to the touchstone, to the crucible.
Fiammetta. What then or who is noble, and thou not?
I have heard whispers that myself am not so
Who am king Robert's daughter. We may laugh
At those who are, if thou and I are none.
Thou art my knight, Giovanni! There now; take
Thy patent of nobility, and wear it. [*Giving him her scarf.*]
Boccaccio, kisses it. What other but were cobweb after this?
Fiammetta. Ha! kiss it! but take care you don't kiss me.
[*Runs away.*]

We have selected the above passages, not as being superior to others in the poem, but because they were more easily separable from the story, and had reference to events which have been already consecrated by love and poetry, in the hearts of all those who have ever felt the beauty of the one, and the power of the other.

BARON DE SACY.

Notice Historique et Littéraire, sur M. le Baron Silvestre de Sacy. Par M. Reinaud. Paris, Dondey Dupré; London, Dulau.

ORIENTAL literature is much indebted to Baron de Sacy for its present high position in Europe; he found the East and its intellectual treasures almost forgotten: Reiske had departed, the two Schultens had died without leaving a successor; the labours of Pococke, Lofius, Ockley, and Sale had almost fallen into oblivion, when De Sacy, as in the races of ancient Greece, lifted the torch which the last had dropped, rekindled its light and increased its splendour. For more than half a century De Sacy steadily supported the great task he had undertaken—the revelation of Asia to Europe; and even

—at his latest day,
When Death just hovering claim'd his prey,

he still clung to his labours, and, as if literary exertion had been a condition of his existence, only ceased to toil when he ceased to live.

Although the biography of a solitary student may be supposed to present few incidents likely to interest the general reader, yet there were some circumstances in De Sacy's life well calculated to cheer aspirants for literary distinction, by showing that fame must be earned by toil, and that, however disheartening neglect may be in the earlier stages of exertion, yet sooner or later merit will obtain its reward, and Time bring round the period of just recompense. Another reason for paying a merited tribute to the memory of this patriarch of Eastern lore is, that, unlike many of the continental orientalists, De Sacy was not only willing, but anxious, to recognize the merits of English scholars. In all his writings he cheerfully acknowledges the assistance he derived from the labours of those ardent students who, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, devoted themselves to oriental literature, and rendered the name of the English Levant Company not less memorable in the annals of science than of commerce. The simple statement of facts is the best eulogy that can be pronounced on such a man as De Sacy, and we shall therefore confine ourselves to an outline of his life and labours.

M. Silvestre de Sacy was born at Paris in 1758; his father died when he was only seven years of age, but a fond and wise mother prevented him from suffering by the loss; she watched over his education at home, for the original feebleness of his constitution prevented his being sent to a public school. He became a sound classical scholar at a very early age, and some of his Latin compositions in his fourteenth year display a mastery of language which would not disgrace an experienced professor. In the hours of recreation he was taken by his tutor to walk in the gardens of the abbey of St. Germain des Prés, which was then occupied by Benedictines of the congregation of St. Maur, so justly renowned for their historical labours. Among the brothers of this community was Berthereau, who had undertaken to make a collection of the Arab authors who had written on the crusades; he formed a friendship for the delicate boy whom he met in his walks, and inspired De Sacy with the taste, or rather passion, for oriental literature, which became the chief object of his existence.

De Sacy studied Hebrew under an intelligent Jew, who was well acquainted not only with the Biblical language, but also with the cognate dialects, Syriac, Samaritan, and Chaldean; at the same time, with only the imperfect aids furnished by the scholars of the preceding century, he undertook the study of the Arabic and Ethiopic languages. At this period Biblical criticism and philology engaged a more than ordinary share of public attention: the labours of Kennicott and De Rossi had shown that the Rabbinical text of the Old Testament was not quite so fixed a standard as had been generally supposed; scholars began to compare the pointed and unpointed text with the Septuagint and Syriac versions, and much interest was excited by the variations discovered in the Samaritan version of the Pentateuch. Several periodicals on the continent were exclusively devoted to these researches, the most remarkable of which was Eichhorn's *Biblical and Oriental Repertory*, to which the most eminent professors throughout Europe were contributors. De Sacy commenced his career as an author, by sending to the *Repertory* a notice of a Syriac version of the Second Book of Kings, which he found among the MSS. in the Royal Library at Paris. In 1783 he published in the same periodical a corrected version of two letters addressed by the Samaritans to Joseph Scaliger, in reply to his inquiries respecting their sacred

books; and almost at the close of his life he published the remainder of the correspondence between the Samaritans and the learned men of Europe, which is preserved in Paris.

Independently of the aid supplied by these documents to Biblical criticism, they have the additional interest of being almost the only literary memorials of a nation fast hastening to extinction. The Samaritans are the last representatives of the ten tribes of Israel that separated from the kingdom of Judah. Since the days of Solomon they have seen the Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, and Saracens attain the summit of greatness, and successively disappear, while the lingering existence of their feeble community has been protracted to our own days, finding strength in its weakness, and protection in its obscurity. Four or five families alone remain claiming to represent the people of Jeroboam.

We must pass over De Sacy's writings on the ancient history and antiquities of Arabia, to turn to the first of his works which obtained European fame, the *Memoirs on the Antiquities of Persia*. The inscriptions at Nakshi Rستم, near the ruins of ancient Persepolis, when correctly copied and published by Niebuhr, excited nearly as much attention as the Rosetta Stone at a later period. The skill and sagacity with which De Sacy, from the imperfect Greek inscriptions, discovered the alphabet of the previously unknown characters of the Pehlavi inscriptions, have not received all the praise they merit, for they have been eclipsed by the more exciting discoveries in Egyptian antiquities. No person, however, can form a correct notion of the Sassanid dynasty, and its connexion with the histories of Christianity and Mohammedanism at the most critical period for both religions, without diligently studying De Sacy's lucid memoirs.

In 1791 De Sacy was appointed to an office in the Mint, which he resigned the next year, because he disapproved of the violent changes made in the progress of the Revolution. He removed to a small house in the country, and this retreat probably saved his life, for his inflexible and uncompromising character might have provoked the vengeance of the Jacobins. Aware of his danger, he always travelled on foot to Paris when he had occasion to consult any books or manuscripts, for he feared to meet some person in the public conveyances, who might report his perilous daring in conversation. The peasants in the neighbourhood of De Sacy's cottage soon became attached to the solitary student, and though he caused public worship to be celebrated, every Sunday, at his house, in violation of the law, no one ever informed against him. When the Directory established a species of conscription for public works, De Sacy and his neighbours were once summoned to thresh some barley, but the peasants unanimously requested that he should be excused, and accomplished his part of the work amongst them.

During this troubled period, De Sacy was continuing his researches into the religious tenets and customs of the Druses,—a singular race, who seem to have preserved most of the wild creeds which formed the basis of countless Christian and Mohammedan heresies between the seventh and tenth centuries. Before the investigation was completed, public order was in some degree restored; a school of Oriental Literature was founded by the Convention, and De Sacy was appointed Professor of Arabic. He now directed his attention to the preparation of an Arabic Grammar,—a work of immense labour, for the Eastern grammarians have overloaded their systems with all the pedantic trifling of the schoolmen, and produced such a heterogeneous mixture as would result from blending Lindley

Murray with Thomas Aquinas. In 1806 M. de Sacy became Professor of Persian, and in the same year he published his *Chrestomathie Arabe*—the most valuable collection, for the use of students, that has yet appeared, and particularly useful to such as are likely to be engaged in oriental diplomacy. In 1810, the Arabic Grammar, the fruit of almost incessant toil for fifteen years, was given to the public, and also the translation of Abd-al-latîf's Account of Egypt,—a most interesting work, for, when that enlightened philosopher the author visited the Valley of the Nile, in the days of Saladin and Malek Adhel, many monuments of antiquity remained which have since perished. At the same time, M. de Sacy contributed several valuable memoirs to the Academy of Inscriptions: indeed, for many years, scarcely a volume appeared that did not contain some article from his pen. On the return of the Bourbons, in 1814, M. de Sacy became a member of the Chamber of Deputies. During the Hundred Days he lived secluded; but, after the restoration of Louis XVIII., he became a member of the Council for Public Instruction, and was long the most active of the members in promoting National Education. Soon afterwards he took a prominent share in founding the Asiatic Society of Paris; he was chosen to be its first President, and, at the same time, M. Abel Rémusat was elected Secretary.

In 1823 M. de Sacy retired from public life, and devoted himself wholly to Oriental studies. Besides numerous works completed and published, he contemplated an edition of Beidawi's Commentary on the Koran; but he subsequently resigned the task to Fleischer, a German scholar, who is, we believe, at the present moment engaged in its preparation. The Revolution of 1830 at first filled him with alarm, but the speedy installation of the Orleans dynasty calmed his fears, and he readily gave in his adhesion to the new government. In 1832 Louis Philippe gave the first example of awarding the highest honours of the state to literary merit, by elevating De Sacy, and the no less illustrious Cuvier, to the peerage: he was thus again brought into contact with politics; but he could not be diverted from his favourite pursuits, and he continued to supply valuable memoirs to the Academy of Inscriptions, and to complete his great work on the Religion of the Druses, which was published in the beginning of last year.

In the domestic circle Baron de Sacy was equally loving and beloved; his wife took a lively interest in his labours, and both hospitably welcomed those young Orientalists who came from England or Germany to pursue their studies at Paris. The loss of this amiable lady, in 1835, was severely felt by the Baron: he received it, however, as a warning that his own summons would not be long delayed, and, in a few months after her decease, regulated all his affairs, and made his will. The preface which he put to the will is too interesting and characteristic to be omitted:—

Before regulating anything concerning my personal affairs, and the interests of my family, I regard it as a sacred duty, that I, who have lived at a period when the spirit of irreligion became almost universal, and produced such fatal consequences, should declare, in the presence of Him from whom no secrets are hid, that I have always lived in the faith of the Catholic Church; and that, if my conduct, as I humbly confess, has not always been conformable to the holy laws imposed by my creed, the deviations have not arisen from any doubt of the Christian religion, or of its divine origin: I firmly hope that they will be forgiven by our merciful Heavenly Father, through the merits and mediation of our Lord Jesus Christ; not placing any confidence in my own deserts or works, but recognizing, from the bottom of my heart, that of myself, I am feeble, wretched, and indigent.

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turning from the Chamber of Peers, where he had taken an active part in debate, he fell in the street, and was taken up by the spectators. He was conveyed to his own house, but the attack was a fatal stroke of apoplexy, and he expired on the following day.

We have not mentioned half of the benefits which the labours of De Sacy conferred on Oriental literature; but those which he suggested to others were not less valuable. It was on his recommendation that Professorships of Chinese, Sanscrit, and Hindustani, were established in Paris; it was under his direction that the Russian and Prussian institutions for Oriental studies were raised to their present eminence. The Emperor Nicholas and King Frederic regularly consulted him respecting the Professorships which ought to be founded, and the persons by whom they should be filled. In conclusion, we must mention one remarkable trait in De Sacy's character: he never refused the loan of any of his books or manuscripts, however precious, when they were wanted to aid the researches of an oriental student; his library was, indeed, almost constantly circulating throughout Europe; and, to the honour of Orientalists, it must be added, that he suffered no loss from what most would deem a hazardous experiment.

Morton of Morton's Hope; an Autobiography
3 vols. Colburn.

Of these volumes as a novel we have little to say,—further than that the first proves their author to have read 'Matthew Wald'—and remembered it. They are entirely without that concentration or connexion of plot which should constitute a novel—being little more than a series of episodes very irregularly strung together by a very slender thread. As an autobiography, too, they are certainly the least egotistical specimen of the class we ever met with—telling us far less about the presumed author himself, than about every one else who figures in their pages. The supposed narrator is an American; the scene of the volumes opens and closes on American ground; and it was intended, we presume, to leave an impression on the mind of the reader that the author is an American. This, however, we are perfectly convinced he is not; and the American portion of the volumes is the principal ground of our conviction. Many of the episodes are extremely clever—certainly not the American ones. A considerable portion of the book occupies German ground; and, though there is some exaggeration in the picture of university manners, yet the sketches are made with so much spirit, and have so much novelty, that the volumes are well worth notice on that account. The picture of the Count Trump Von Toggenburg, with his endless genealogical babble, is touched off with considerable humour. "He traced his family, with great accuracy, up to the Deluge; but that catastrophe seemed, among other injuries to the human race, to have obliterated most of the landmarks of the Toggenburg genealogy. He contented himself, accordingly, with declaring, that the direct line of his family was lost among the Antediluvians; and he kept himself conversant with all the geological researches that were made, in the hope, I am convinced," says the autobiographer, "of discovering some fossil remain of a Mammoth Toggenburg, among the newly-discovered relics of the ancient world." There are many portraits among the German students, drawn with great skill, though scarcely, we should think, from the life. They exhibit, however, the features of German university existence and character, in a very lively manner, and we suppose with sufficient general fidelity. The following sketch of a German student will amuse; and we should observe, that the indi-

viduality of the character here introduced is sustained with great talent throughout all the scenes in which he figures:—

"The next morning, I lounged up the Weender Strasse. The day was fine, and the streets were thronged with more than the usual number of Students and Philistines. As I got near the end of the street, I saw one or two small boys, and half-a-dozen house-maids, looking with wonder at a strange figure, preceded by a strange dog, that was passing along the side walk. On looking at him at first, at a short distance, I took him for a maniac, escaped from the lunatic asylum. He wore a cap, embroidered in crimson and gold, shaped like a shaving-bason, and of the sort usually denominated beer-caps, a dressing-gown of many colours, strapped tightly about his loins with a leathery girdle, in which were thrust two horse-pistols, and a long basket-hilted 'schläger,' or duelling-sword, and on his feet a pair of red Turkish slippers. His neck was open, and his legs bare from the ankle to the knees. In one hand he brandished an oaken cudgel, and in the other he held a small memorandum-book. He was preceded by a small dog of the comical breed called 'Deckel,' a kind of terrier, which considerably resembles the English turnspit. The individual one which now presented itself, was, like all its class, as ugly as a dog can well be. His body was very long, and his legs very short; his colour was a mixture of black and a dirty red; his tail curled itself as gracefully as a pig's, his knees were bowed outwards, so as to form a perfect parenthesis, and he turned out his toes like a country dancing-master. In order to heighten the effects of these personal charms, his master had tied a wreath of artificial flowers round his neck, and decorated his tail with fancy coloured ribbons. Attired in this guise, the dog and his master proceeded gravely down the street, apparently without heeding the laughter of the admiring spectators. There seemed to be no students in the immediate vicinity, and the Philistines were beneath his notice. As I approached him, I observed something familiar in his countenance, and, immediately afterwards, the singular individual caught me by the hand, and kissed me affectionately on both cheeks. It was Rabenmark, my Leipzig acquaintance. He invited me to accompany him to his rooms, and smoke a pipe. I complied, and turned about with him; and we continued our walk down the street."

As a pendant to the foregoing, we must give the appropriate sketch of a student's room, and a student's account of a German university:—

"A few minutes' walk brought us to his lodgings. We ascended two flights of stairs, and entered his apartment. The sitting-room was tolerably large, and in its furniture and arrangements, a perfect specimen of a regular 'kneipe.' The floor was without carpet, and sanded; and the household furniture consisted of a table, a sofa, and half-a-dozen chairs of the most unpretending kind. The great expense had been, however, evidently made in providing the pipes, pictures, and other student luxuries. A large and well-executed engraving of a celebrated duel, which, from the notoriety of the combatants, and its tragical issue, had become historical, hung on the right side as you entered. On the left, the wall was covered with a large collection of 'silhouettes;' these are a peculiar and invariable characteristic of a German student's room. * * * The third side of the room was decorated with a couple of 'schlagers,' or duelling swords, which were fastened crosswise against the wall. * * * On the fourth side of the room were ranged a collection of pipes, which were the pride of his heart. They were about twenty, ranged in a systematic row. The bowls were of porcelain, exquisitely painted; some with portraits of pretty women, some with copies from Ostade and Gerard Dow, and some with the arms of his intimate friends. The stems of each were about three feet in length, and of the fragrant polished cherry. The tassels were large and rich, and of every combination of Landsmanschaft colour. Besides these were a half-a-dozen meerschams, of all the different kinds: there was the 'milk meerscham' from Vienna, exquisitely carved, and delicate as sugar work; the 'oil meerscham' from Hanover, carefully polished, and scientifically embrowned towards the bottom by its own smoke; besides the 'wax meerscham,' the 'raw meerscham,' and

various others. Besides these articles, there were some half dozen engravings in frames, a fowling-piece, a sabre, and two or three different species of caps hanging in different parts of the room. "There," said Rabenmark, entering the room, unbuckling his belt, and throwing the pistols and schläger on the floor. "I can leave my buffoonery for awhile and be reasonable; it's rather tiresome work this recommending."—"Have the kindness to tell me," said I, "what particular reason you have for arraying yourself and your dog in such particularly elegant costumes; and for making such an exquisite exhibition of yourself during your promenade?"—"No particular reason," he answered: "but it is about the most simple way of arranging matters on the whole. I am a fox. When I came to the university three months ago I had not a single acquaintance. I wished to introduce myself into the best Landsmanschaft, but I saw little chance of succeeding. I have already, however, become an influential member. What course do you suppose I adopted to gain my admission?"—"I suppose you made friends of the president or senior, as you call him, and the other magnates of the club," said I.—"No. I insulted them all publicly, and in the grossest manner. Look here," he continued, taking down one of the schlägers from the wall, and showing me the list of the duels he had already perpetrated, written, according to an universal custom, on the white leathern lining of the hilt. The number of entries was already about fourteen. "See," said he, "these first half-dozen are the senior, con-senior, and some other members of the Pommerania; they were my first six duels."—"I suppose got well peppered by such old stagers," said I; "but I hardly see how that was to expedite your admission."—"Oh! that was a very simple matter," replied Rabenmark; "for in the first place, you are wrong in your flattering supposition. Instead of being peppered I was very successful; and after I had cut off the senior's nose, sliced off the con-senior's upper lip, moustachios and all, besides bestowing less severe marks of affection on the others, the whole club, in admiration of my prowess, and desiring to secure the services of so valorous a combatant, voted me in by acclamation."—"Do you find any particular satisfaction," said I, "in your club, and the university life?"—"Oh, it is boy's play," said he; "but then I am a boy, in years at least. I have a certain quantity of time on my hands. I wish to take the university as a school for action. I intend to lead my companions here, as I intend to lead them in after-life. You see I am a very rational sort of person now, and you would hardly take me for the same crazy mountebank you met in the street half an hour ago. But then, I see this is the way to obtain superiority. I determined at once, on arriving at the university, that, to obtain the mastery over my competitors, who were all extravagant, savage, eccentric, was to be ten times as extravagant and savage as any one else. You do not suppose I derived any particular satisfaction from tying up Fritz's tail with ribbons; but then it is as good a way of bullying as any other, and besides, these student duels are capital exercise."—"Suppose, however, that Mr. Weissbier had happened to have been a less tractable person than he proved to be?"—"Why, I should have been obliged to shoot him."—"You forget the less agreeable alternative. He might have done you the same favour."—"Oh no,—impossible. I shall not die till I am nineteen years and nine months old. If I pass that period, I shall live some twelve or thirteen years longer; I forget the exact number; but I have it written down in my common-place book somewhere." This I found afterwards to be a settled conviction. Nothing could induce Rabenmark to admit the possibility of his death till that age. It was a prediction in his family by some gipsy, I suppose, for he was, as I have said, a Bohemian. His age was, at the time of which I am writing, exactly eighteen and a half. "Perhaps," said he, politely, "you would like to see a duel or two. They are very pretty gladiatorial exhibitions. There are always plenty going on every day, and they are quite as amusing as the *combats des animaux* at Paris."—"I should have no objection," said I, "as it seems customary to admit spectators." Here Rabenmark threw open the window, and called to a passing acquaintance. "Katt! do you go 'los' to-morrow afternoon?" (To go 'los,' or loose literally, is the cant expression for fighting.)

—'Yes; with Poppendorf,' was the answer.—'Very well. Oh! by the way, have the kindness to step to a certain Pott of the Bremen club, and to Kopp and Fizzleberg of the Brunswick, and challenge them each for me, on twenty-four gangs, small caps.'—'Very well. I shall see you at the Kneipe to-night?'—'Yes. Adieu.'—'Adieu.'—'There, Mr. Morton,' continued Rabenmark, 'you see in five minutes a student's whole life. A young man usually spends three years at the university. As most of the German universities are in coalition, whatever time he spends at one, is counted for him at the next, and he consequently usually passes a whole year at one, the next term at another, and so on. The first two years of the three, a student generally employs in fighting duels, and getting drunk. After he has fought his fifty or a hundred duels, and drank as much beer as he is capable of, he usually, at the end of his second year, leaves his club, and spends his third and last year in diligent study. His examination,—and a very strict one it is,—succeeds: and if he can pass it, he receives his doctor's degree, whether of theology, philosophy, law, or medicine, and retires into private life.'—'But, I suppose, he remains a long time a troublesome and ferocious individual?'—'On the contrary. Nobody ever hears of him. It is a singular anomaly,—the whole German student existence. The German students are no more Germans than they are Sandwich Islanders. They have, in fact, less similarity with Germans, than with any other nation. You see in them a distinct and strongly characterized nation, moving in a definite, though irregular orbit of its own, and totally independent of the laws which regulate the rest of the social system of Germany. It presents the singular phenomenon of a rude though regularly organized republic, existing in the heart of a despotism. In fact, every one of the main points of the German's character is directly the opposite of those of the German student. The German is phlegmatic,—the student fiery. The German is orderly and obedient to the authorities,—the student ferocious and intractable. The German is peaceable,—the student for ever brawling and fighting. The German is eminently conservative in his politics,—the student always a revolutionist. The government of all the German States is despotic,—the student's whole existence is Republican. The German is particularly deferent to rank and title. In the student's republic, and there alone, the omnipotent 'Von' sinks before the dexterous schläger, or the capacious 'beer bummel.' Lastly, the German is habitually sober, and the student invariably drunk."

The author's power of painting is in general very considerable—indeed, we strongly suspect that he is an old and well practised writer, though he is pleased on this occasion to play the anonymous.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A Manual for Mechanics' Institutions.—After a long interval of suspended animation, the Society for diffusing Useful Knowledge is again giving signs of life; and we rejoice to say that the first motions of its new existence are in a right direction; it appears to have resigned the notion of becoming a great book-making and book-selling joint stock company, having derived no fame from the one speculation and no profit from the other. Its present labours are designed to give system and unity to the instruction afforded by the various Mechanics' Institutions through the country; and we are pleased to find the Society adopting the improvements introduced by the committee of the Manchester Institution, namely, Exhibitions of Models, &c., and meetings for amusement as well as instruction. The sale of single admissions to the Manchester Exhibition produced 1607l. 18s., and of season tickets 35l. 2s. 6d. The children of the principal free schools in the town and neighbourhood, the inmates of the work-houses, the military stationed at Manchester and Salford, and the pupils in the schools of the respective regiments, were admitted gratuitously. Though the rooms were constantly crowded, not a single instance of wanton mischief occurred, and the accidental injuries were few and trifling. The following extract from Mr. Cumber's speech at the Annual Meeting of the members, contains a gratify-

ing proof of the moral benefit resulting from these exhibitions:—"Among all those who had visited our Exhibition, there was only one instance of a man presenting himself in a state of intoxication. Of course, he was refused admittance. There was another instance of a person who was not quite so far intoxicated; he was more strenuous, and was at length admitted: he stayed a considerable time looking at the Exhibition, and being, no doubt, made more sober by the time he was in, at length he went out, and when a few yards off, was asked how he liked the Exhibition; he replied, he liked it so well, that he would bring his wife and children. He did so, and after being three hours and a half in, was asked how he approved of the Collection, and he said, he never expected to live to see such an Exhibition; that his wife was also much gratified; that he had never before taken her to such an Exhibition, and he regretted his poverty to enrol his name as a member, but that he would go immediately and enter his name at the Lyceum. There were also two very suspicious characters entered into the Exhibition. One of the Directors was advised to have the Police to watch their motions; but the Director very properly requested that they might be left to his care. They went round, and on his observing to them that they seemed to be much struck, they said, they never saw anything like it before; and so interested were they, that, whether they came to pick one's pocket or not, he (Mr. Cumber) did not know, but if they did, they forgot their calling." This communication excited great interest, and has led to similar exhibitions at Birmingham and Sheffield, with equally gratifying results. Masters have benefited as well as workmen; the sentiment so well expressed, two years ago, by Sir Benjamin Heywood, has passed into an aphorism: "Treat," said he, "the working man with generosity and confidence, and he will repay you with gratitude and affection; treat him with suspicion and distrust, and what right have you to expect a different return?" The concerts at the Manchester Mechanics' Institution were highly creditable to the Directors; though the rate of admission was only six-pence, artists of first-rate talent were engaged; and it deserves to be added, that a military band formed an important auxiliary to the evening's amusements, Colonel Chatterton having sent the band of the Fourth Royal Irish Dragoons to aid the regular performers. There are those who look upon the amusements of the people as trifles, unworthy of notice; there are others who watch them with a jealous and ascetic spirit,—who would check, fetter and control them by experimental and hap-

hazard legislation; but there are also many who deeply feel the importance of providing recreation for the labourer after his toils, and thus enable him to gratify the imperious necessity for excitement and exhilaration without having recourse to vicious indulgences. "Labour," says Sir J. Herschel, "is work, amusement is play; and though it has passed into a proverb that one without the other will make a dull boy, we seem to have lost sight of a thing equally obvious, that a community of dull boys in this sense, is only another word for a society of ignorant, headlong, and ferocious men."

Morrison's Parent's Friend.—There are several valuable hints in this volume, but the whole is too deeply tinged with asceticism. It should be our aim to render religion attractive to the young, instead of representing it as the enemy of every pleasure however innocent, and every relaxation however necessary.

The First Principles of Religion.—The substance of this work is good, but the conversational form is a sad draw-back on its merits, for the tone of the dialogue is strained and unnatural.

First Book of English Composition.—Chambers's Educational Course is a series of very unequal merit: the little work before us deserves to be distinguished from its less worthy associates; it is a really good book; the system of instruction is equally practical and profitable, and the examples have been selected with judgment and good taste.

List of New Books.—Memoirs of Charles Mathews, Vols. III. and IV. 8vo. cl. 28s.—Barney's Romance of Private Life, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.—Robinson's Magistrate's Pocket Book, 3rd edit. post 8vo. 26s.—Architectura Domestica, von A. de Chateaufort, imp. 8vo. cl. 35s.—Bright's Tables for Calculating Value of Estates, post 8vo. cl. 10s. 6d.—Bell on the Game Laws, 12mo. 7s. 6d.—Mylius's History of England, 4th edit. 12mo. 6s. 6d.—Murphy's Theory of Equations, 8vo. cl. 4s.—The Pulpit, Vol. XXXV. 8vo. cl. 7s. 6d.—Murray's Memoir on the Diamond, 2nd edit. 12mo. cl. 5s.—Kentish's Treatise on a Box of Instruments and the Slide Rule, 12mo. half-roan. 3s.—Payne's Select Poetry for Children, 18mo. cl. 3s.—Hickie's Xenophon's Anabasis, Books I. and II. 12mo. 3s. 6d.—The New Excitement for 1840, 18mo. cl. 3s. 6d.—Le Page's French Master for the Nursery, 12mo. cl. 3s. 6d.—Essays on Government, 12mo. cl. 5s.—A Few Minutes' Advice to Deaf Persons, by a Surgeon Aurist, 12mo. cl. 3s. 6d.—A Challenge to Pireologists, by A. M., of the Middle Temple, &c. cl. 5s.—A Treatise on the Laws of Whist, by M. De chapelles, 8vo. cl. 8s.—Berens's History of the Prayer-Book of the Church of England, 12mo. cl. 5s.—Family Library, Vol. LXIX. "Hollings's Life of Cicero," 12mo. cl. 5s.—Lockhart's Life of Scott, Vol. VII. 12mo. cl. 5s.—Finney's Sermons on Important Subjects, 12mo. cl. 3s. 6d.—Ellis's British Tariff, 1840, 12mo. cl. 5s. 6d.—Ruth and her Kindred, by the Rev. John Hughes, 18mo. cl. 2s. 6d.—Stephen's Incidents of Travel, "Greece, &c." (people's edition) 8vo. swd. 1s. 10d.—Chambers's Class Book (Educational Course), 12mo. cl. 1s. 6d., swd. 1s. 3d.

Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society, Somerset House, for 25 successive hours, commencing 6 A.M. of the 21st of September, 1839, and ending 6 A.M. of the following day. (Greenwich mean time.)

By Mr. J. D. ROBERTSON, Assistant Secretary, Royal Society.

Hours of Observation.	Barom. corrected. Flint Glass.	Barom. corrected. Crown Glass.	Atmos. Ther.	Extern. Ther.	Old Standard Barom.	Atmos. Ther.	Difference of Wet & Dry Bulb Ther.	Dew Point.	Rain in Inches.	Wind.	REMARKS.
6, A.M.	29.476	29.468	57.0	51.9	29.546	57.7	01.7	53		W	Overcast—deposition—light wind.
7, ..	29.469	29.463	57.2	51.8	29.544	57.8	01.5	52		NW	Do. light rain and wind.
8, ..	29.465	29.457	57.2	51.4	29.542	57.7	01.3	51		NW	Do. continued rain and wind.
9, ..	29.458	29.450	57.0	51.7	29.536	57.8	01.4	52	.009	NW	Do. ditto ditto.
10, ..	29.467	29.459	57.2	51.4	29.546	58.2	01.4	52	.083	NW	Do. ditto ditto.
11, ..	29.475	29.467	57.2	50.9	29.552	58.0	01.3	53	.122	NW	Do. ditto ditto.
12, ..	29.473	29.465	57.2	50.3	29.546	57.9	01.3	52	.094	NW	Do. ditto brisk wind.
1, P.M.	29.470	29.462	57.6	52.3	29.546	58.5	02.4	53	.036	NW	Do. ditto ditto.
2, ..	29.477	29.471	58.2	53.8	29.554	59.5	04.3	53		NW	Fine—light clouds and wind.
3, ..	29.480	29.474	58.4	56.3	29.560	59.8	05.6	53		W	Do. ditto ditto.
4, ..	29.490	29.482	58.6	56.3	29.570	59.9	05.2	53		SW	Do. ditto ditto.
5, ..	29.502	29.494	58.6	55.6	29.582	59.8	04.4	53		S	Do. ditto ditto.
6, ..	29.509	29.501	58.3	53.8	29.586	59.4	02.9	52		S	Do. ditto ditto.
7, ..	29.519	29.511	58.0	52.3	29.592	58.7	02.0	54		SE	Do. ditto ditto.
8, ..	29.537	29.527	57.9	51.8	29.606	58.5	01.7	53		SE	Fine and clear.
9, ..	29.544	29.534	57.6	51.3	29.614	58.2	01.5	54		SE	Fine moonlight night.
10, ..	29.546	29.536	57.5	50.7	29.619	57.8	01.5	53		SE	Do. ditto.
11, ..	29.537	29.531	57.3	50.7	29.608	57.7	01.6	53		SE	Fine—light clouds and wind.
12, ..	29.539	29.533	57.3	50.8	29.608	57.6	01.6	53		SE	Do. ditto ditto.
1, A.M.	29.530	29.524	57.0	50.8	29.594	57.5	01.6	53		SSE	Fine and clear.
2, ..	29.524	29.518	57.0	50.3	29.590	57.3	01.6	52		SSE	Do. ditto.
3, ..	29.522	29.512	56.8	50.4	29.590	57.2	01.5	52		SSE	Fine—light clouds.
4, ..	29.515	29.509	56.6	49.7	29.588	57.0	01.4	53		SSE	Do. ditto.
5, ..	29.527	29.521	56.6	49.5	29.596	56.8	01.1	53		SE	Cloudy—light wind.
6, ..	29.535	29.527	56.5	49.8	29.606	56.8	01.2	51		S	Fine—light clouds and fog.
	29.503	29.496	57.4	51.8	29.577	58.1	02.1	52.6	.404		

The observations of the Barometer (Flint and Crown Glass) are severally corrected for temperature, as also for Capillarity.

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LETTERS ON EGYPT.—No. II.

BY PRINCE PUCKLER-MUSKAU.

The latter days of February were passed in the most agreeable leisure, and in regulating what might be called the domestic affairs of my floating habitation; but the first of March entered like a threatening messenger of mischief, to put an end to our harmless enjoyments.

I was sitting, about noon, quietly occupied with writing in my cabin, when there suddenly arose a violent gust of wind, which lashed the Nile up into high waves, and began to rock the boat about so violently, that I was forced to pack up my papers as fast as possible. I then threw myself on my bed, and called for my pipe,—that never-failing consolation of an Oriental in every misfortune. It happened that the care of the chibouk belonged to the department of my Greek page, who was in the other boat, and the Dragoman, therefore, called to him to bring it to me. A few minutes after, I heard a scream and a confused noise, and looking from my cabin window, saw three or four Arabs plunge, head over heels, into the river, and swim after a red *tarbush* which danced before them over the waves. I wondered why they should give themselves so much trouble for a trifle in such weather, and was still looking carelessly on, when Ackermann entered with a very pale face to inform me that the young page had disappeared overboard, no one could think how, and had not been seen again, his *tarbush* only appearing above the water. The effect of such a piece of intelligence may be imagined. By the promise of a handsome reward, I induced the Arabs to continue their efforts to find him, and immediately putting the vessel about, we cruised about the spot for several hours, but all in vain. Even the *tarbush* was carried away with such swiftness by the wind and water, that the most expert swimmers were unable to reach it. The circumstance that my pipe was also missing, convinced me that he had been on the point of obeying the command just issued, and in stepping from one boat to the other, (to which it was attached by chains,) had somehow slipped, and been buried in the waves before he could call for help. The premature and tragic fate of this poor boy was regarded with the coldest indifference by the sailors. Our captain even exhibited a superstitious sort of satisfaction in it, and whispered to my Dragoman, "Now our voyage will be fortunate, for the Nile has fetched his victim. It is never of any use to try and save one." It was not till towards evening, when all hope had vanished, that I reluctantly gave orders for prosecuting our journey.

Benisuef, like almost all Egyptian towns, is a wretched looking place, with mud houses. The Primary School, of ninety-six children, appears to be kept in an orderly manner. I saw the scholars take their dinner, and found the provision for their earthly nourishment unexceptionable, however they may fare for the spiritual. Of this I had no means of forming an opinion, as it was a holiday. There are in the province, El Faïoum, four similar schools, founded by Mehemet Ali. A great establishment for the spinning of wool, which I afterwards visited, was also in active operation. The great barrack, for two regiments of cavalry, separated from the Nile by a beautiful avenue of old mimosas, was nearly empty, as the horses had been all sent out to the Bersim.

Late in the evening I again went on board the boat, and we soon overtook that of a French traveller, Count Mercy d'Argenteau. I was told he was accompanied by a charming countrywoman, whom we saw, sitting on the deck, elegantly dressed, and reading most diligently. Apparently, however, she did not find the country to her taste, for they turned round at this spot, and proceeded down the river. It is not, indeed, to be denied, that a voyage on the Nile soon becomes wearisome, on account of its monotony. There is scarcely a spot which, if one were suddenly set down upon it, would not appear to a stranger most romantic and striking; but one differs so little from another, *tousjours perdrix* becomes tiresome, and after a few months one certainly longs most heartily for some of the familiar objects of one's native country, let them be of ever so unpretending a character. Even thus early in the year, the sun was beginning to scorch up the lovely green, which had hitherto adorned the meadows, and in the course of a few weeks a gray robe

of dust everywhere takes the place of their emerald vesture. The river, too, was now so low, that we could see but little of the country, and it was only on landing that we became sensible of its extraordinary fertility. The rich tracts of land were frequently interrupted by long stretches of desert, whose barrenness was occasioned by the decay of the ancient canals.

On the 4th, 5th, and 6th of March, we felt the first attack of the burning *Khamsin*, and were detained opposite a tobacco field, where not a tree or a shrub afforded us the least shelter. Although during this phenomenon the wind felt as if it came out of an oven, and the blood, of course, became much heated, and the eyes inflamed by the dust, I cannot say that I found its effect so insupportable as it had been described to me. It did not occasion the slightest weakness, and even appeared to increase the appetite. The dust was undoubtedly disagreeable enough, for the whole air was filled with it, so that one could not see over fifty, and sometimes not more than ten paces; and places the most carefully closed, were covered with it again as soon as they were cleaned, whilst eyes, nose, and mouth were perpetually full. Fortunately, we had plenty of water at hand, if not as a preventive, at all events as a cure. The sailors, who are always thankful to be relieved of work, sang, played, and danced, day and night. They will sometimes sit in a circle for hours together, singing three or four words in unison; and one night six of them, led by a sort of half-cracked saint, whom they seemed to hold in great veneration, attempted the dance of the howling Dervishes. There was something so horrible in the whole scene, that I shall not readily forget it. On the dark shore of the river where our bark lay anchored, dimly distinguishable amidst the clouds of dust which arose continually in the burning atmosphere, a circle of figures, clothed in black, were faintly seen, by the feeble light of a few stars, hovering round an entirely naked form, which sent forth sounds of pain and anguish, though often not quite destitute of melody, while those who surrounded it sprang into the air, or bowed themselves to the earth in exact measure, uttering a hoarse, guttural, indescribable kind of bellow, like that of some infernal monster, and articulating the word *Ajnhur* with continually increasing rapidity, until they sank exhausted on the earth. I am told this violent exertion is extremely dangerous, and not unfrequently ends in a stroke of apoplexy; it is, however, marvellously devout, and whoever loses his life in it is considered as a blessed martyr. To me it looked like a dance of infernal spirits, and the sight was too much for my Spartan, Susannis. He took refuge in a corner of the vessel, keeping his eyes fixed in terror on the dancers, and accompanying all their movements with a yell of his own, scarcely less frightful than theirs.

In the night of the 7th, the *Khamsin* changed all at once into a violent storm from the north, and though this direction was favourable for us, we could not venture to take advantage of it in the darkness of the night, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the rocks of the Jebel-Itler, which forms an abrupt headland on the Arabian side of the Nile; and it was not till late in the morning, that, the wind having considerably abated, we ventured to fly again on its pinions.

From this point the shores of the river afford more variety in their aspect. The character of the vegetation is different from that which precedes it, and the range of hills, though consisting only of yellow sand or naked sandstone, presents much picturesque variety of form. We profited by the favourable breeze, and sailed rapidly past towns, villages, rocks, catacombs, ancient temples, palm forests, and sugar plantations,—the latter exhibiting a peculiarly beautiful vivid apple green, such as only the paintings in the old illuminated monkish writings could attempt to imitate. On a point of the Jebel-Itler is situated a Coptic convent, whence we saw a troop of about ten monks issue, and to our astonishment, throw themselves down the rocks rather than descend them, plunge all at once into the water, and swim like fish towards our vessel. They had no other object than to beg an alms.

Minieh, with a palace belonging to the Viceroy, and another, more striking in appearance, appropriated to the governor, makes a stately appearance

on the left bank of the Nile, and the surrounding country looked fresh and agreeable. We had the advantage, too, of seeing it in the light of a brilliant sunshine, after having been wrapped the whole day in a thick gray cloud like a curtain. To the fiery heat of the *Khamsin* had now succeeded weather so cool, that I was obliged to go in search of a great coat.

On the 8th of March we landed at Karaman, to visit the only sugar manufactory in the country, whose productions are purchased here for three times the price at which foreign sugar may be bought at Cairo. The place selected for this establishment lay unfortunately between the ruins of Hermopolis and Antinoë, and the two celebrated porticoes, lately in the most perfect preservation, before which Denon fell on his knees in rapture, were blown up with gunpowder, that the stones might be made use of to forward the sugar-boiling process. To make the matter worse, there is an inexhaustible stone-quarry at a short distance, but this would have cost a little more trouble. One must remember the Turkish education and former ignorance of the Viceroy, to pardon him for such a piece of barbarism; but it is evident, notwithstanding the assertions of some journals, that many generations must pass away before the Egyptians will have a proper idea of the value of their antiquities.

The sugar-refinery was shown to us by a very intelligent Frenchman, who has been appointed to bring it into order,—an affair which he expects to compass in a few weeks. He is to receive for his trouble 30,000 francs, besides his expenses. The practice hitherto pursued, he informed us, had been to allow the Fellahs to make the sugar into a coarse brown mass in their own huts, and then to buy it from them, and refine it three or four times. The price of the sugar thus four times refined, is 1,050 piastres the cwt., while only 50 piastres is paid for it to the Fellahs when in its rough state; a very tolerable profit certainly, if purchasers enough could be found. The Frenchman proposed not to take it any longer from the Fellahs, but to make it directly from the cane, and refine it with the help of a steam-engine; by which plan, he maintained that the Viceroy would soon be able to sell it cheaper than it can be brought from Europe. The director even offered to farm the whole concern himself, and pay a high price for it; but this proposal, as well as every other by which he thought to overcome the difficulties occasioned by the inertness of the Egyptians, was rejected. He complained very bitterly that the Viceroy showed more and more disinclination to employ Europeans, from a mistaken notion that he had no occasion for them. I repeat these words, because I was convinced that his complaint was by no means groundless. The Turkish jealousy of the Europeans, and the opinion that they have already learnt all that is necessary from them, is gaining ground at the Egyptian court, and still more with Ibrahim than with Mehemet Ali. The latter, indeed, has been so often and so grossly deceived by Europeans, that one cannot wonder at his feeling irritated, and persuading himself he can do without them. But the time for this is not yet come; and he has himself declared, that if ninety-nine had proved worthless, the services of the hundredth have often made ample amends for every wrong suffered from the rest. Great and admirable as are the talents of Mehemet Ali, he could never have been able to bring his projects to bear without their assistance; and it is equally necessary to the duration of all the good that he has hitherto effected.

In the travels of M. de Cadalvene, in which no opportunity for having a fling at the Viceroy is ever lost, it is stated that the inferior quality of the sugar made at this establishment, (occasioned merely by the ignorance of the former director), was to be attributed to the inconsistency of Mehemet Ali, who, in compliance with the silly prejudices of his countrymen, which he had himself set at naught on so many occasions, had forbidden the use of blood in the process of refining, for which it is indispensable. Now, this entire statement is erroneous. In the first place, the Viceroy never dreamed of troubling himself with any such details; and secondly, the present director had not the slightest intention of urging the Mohammedan workmen to overcome their reluctance to the use of blood, since it is so far from being indispens-

able, that he much prefers eggs for the same purpose, and would certainly employ them in Europe, if he could obtain them at the same cost. Insignificant as this matter is, I have been unwilling to pass it over in silence, since it affords a good specimen of the superficial knowledge and hostile feeling which have dictated so many attacks of the kind, in a book not otherwise deficient in value.

On the 9th of March we had, for half the day, the picturesque mountain of Abulfeda on the eastern shore, enriched with magnificent catacombs, and a modern Santons Temple, crowning the topmost peak of a white rock, like a piece of confectionery stuck on a cake; while opposite to it, from the flat desert, arose a yellow sand-hill of the most exact pyramidal form.

After passing Minieh, one no longer sees the balance pails of the Sakis set in motion by oxen, but their places were filled by naked Fellahs. Numerous herds of buffaloes were grazing on the shores; and the low sandy islands were covered with pelicans, formally drawn up in rank and file. Many other kinds of water fowl contributed to enliven the river, and we shot some wild geese of excellent flavour. Towards evening we reached Manfalout, a poor but extensive place, containing some handsome mosques. It was lately half destroyed by an inundation. The environs are beautiful. The Nile flows through rich verdant fields, enclosed by the hills of Libya and Arabia, which here seem to form an uninterrupted circle, while behind them rise the blue summits of lofty mountains. I climbed with the Doctor upon a ruined house-top, to enjoy more completely the magnificent prospect, but we were compelled to a hasty retreat, as the wall tottered under our weight as if from an earthquake. We had time, however, in our hasty glance, to catch the welcome sight of the minarets of Siout, where the Viceroy was to wait for us, and where we hoped to enjoy a period of much desired repose. By land, it is only a few miles distant from Manfalout; but by water, on account of the continual windings of the river, and the contrary wind, we required the greater part of the next day to reach it. As far as my experience, indeed, has gone, I am decidedly of opinion, that any traveller, who is neither feeble in constitution, nor restrained by economical considerations, would obtain a better knowledge of the country, as well as far more pleasure, by making the journey from Alexandria by land, only returning by the Nile; unless he should have to travel in the summer months, when the greater part of Egypt is nothing more than an arid waste of sand.

My first business in Siout, which, at the present height of the Nile, lay about two English miles off, was to inform Mehemet Ali of my arrival, before I even left my vessel. In a short time Artim Bey made his appearance, followed by servants and horses, with a message from his Highness, to the effect that, although he had intended to leave Siout in a few hours, he would now defer his departure till the day after to-morrow. This was the more courteous, as my arrival had been delayed much beyond the time agreed upon.

The ride to Siout, in a splendid evening, through the luxuriant vegetation which, on three sides, surrounds the capital of Upper Egypt, was delightful; and most picturesque the appearance of its towers and mosques, illumined by the golden rays of the sun, and standing out from the grand background formed by the vast range of white mountains of Libya, distinguished by their mysterious garlands of immeasurable catacombs.

The Viceroy had chosen for his dwelling a white-washed mansion at the entrance of the town, in the court-yard of which we found a company of soldiers in green uniform, who honoured me with a salute. His Highness received me in the most cordial manner. He looked remarkably well, in high spirits, and not in the least fatigued, by his long land journey from Cairo, during which, although he is seventy years of age, he had passed from eight to ten hours of every day in the saddle. He stated that he had been highly satisfied with the state of this province, where, for two years, he had had 85,000 men employed in the repairs of the long-neglected canals, and in the same period 32 millions of bricks had been made and baked in the sun. He had also at length succeeded in inducing the inhabitants to make large purchases

of cattle in Sennaar, though, as in every new undertaking, he had found great difficulty at first. He had set the example by becoming himself a purchaser to a considerable amount, and offered to lend sums of money, without interest, for the purpose, to all persons who could offer good security. "In Sennaar," he continued, "the cattle is in such abundance, that a camel seldom costs more than four Spanish colonati, an ox two, and a sheep only four piastres (one franc). There, capital only is wanting, and that to such a degree, that the inhabitants have hitherto practised only barter; and I have myself been the first to accustom them to the use of money. Here, on the contrary, cattle is wanting; and though, from the great profit of agriculture, little land remains for pasture, the business of the Sakis renders a large number of cattle indispensable, and this demand is likely to increase. By the traffic I have introduced between these two places, they are mutually benefited, and, with God's help, their prosperity must advance with giant strides."

In the course of my subsequent journey, I often met large herds of cattle on their road. They all appeared of a fine powerful race, but were most wretchedly thin, as there is great difficulty in feeding them during the transport.

My conversation with the Viceroy afterwards turned upon Europe,—its multiplicity of new inventions and luxuries, unknown to this part of the world.

"I do not confine my attention entirely to machinery," said Mehemet Ali, smiling, "but have a very good idea of whatever contributes to the enjoyment of life. I usually have specimens sent to me of every thing of this kind which appears either in London or Paris."

"It is a pity," I ventured, as we were alone, to reply, "that they should always remain buried in your Highness's harem."

"It is hard for the wisest of us," was his answer, "entirely to conquer the effect of early education. The time is not yet come for me to go as far as you perhaps would wish me to do; but I do not doubt that many prejudices now existing will die away in time."

I complimented him very sincerely on the progress he had already made, and the many benefits he had conferred on the present generation. His answer was candid, and exhibited a thorough knowledge of human nature. "The father," said he, "loves his child. Why? Out of selfishness. It proceeds from him—belongs to him: he sees in it a continuation of himself, and hopes from it the support of his old age. The child loves the father, because it depends on him for subsistence, and every enjoyment, and hopes after his death to receive an inheritance from him. Prince and subject, master and servant, every relation of human life, is supported at the bottom by self-interest; but this is sufficient, if well managed, to make good masters and good servants."

"It is much to be regretted," said I, "that so few understand their true interest; and I cannot help admiring the firmness of your Highness in suffering neither treachery nor stupidity to interfere with your beneficent plans."—"I have, indeed," replied the Viceroy, "had much to contend with; but perhaps for that very reason have become passionately attached to this country of my adoption. It always appears to me to have been buried for centuries in sleep—it is like a naked, helpless child, to which I must fill the place of father and mother, master and servant, teacher and judge; and often during sleepless nights have I asked myself, if one Mehemet Ali could be sufficient to feed, to clothe, to educate this child, and develop its faculties. I have never been able to determine this point, but God, whom I already thank for so much, will perhaps enable me to overcome all obstacles."

Mehemet Ali is, in general, so entirely misunderstood in Europe, that I have not the least doubt many of my readers will consider this conversation, as well as much that follows, as a romance of my own invention: I beg them only to consider that I can refer for a confirmation of all my statements to Artim Bey, a man of such completely European cultivation, that one might know him for twenty years without finding out that he was a Turk. In single unimportant expressions, I may be mistaken, but never in anything essential; I always seized the first possible moment to write down all that he

said, as to me there is something interesting in the opinions of really great men, even on unimportant topics.

Whether his Highness's expressions always displayed the genuine feelings of his heart, or were uttered with any other intention, I shall leave to the reader's own penetration to discover. He finished our conversation this day with the remark, that every nation on the face of the earth was capable of greatness, and every army of victory, if it could find a suitable leader.

On the following morning I was invited to take with the Viceroy a *déjeuner à la fourchette*, and was rather surprised to find everything served in the European style, since, on the occasion of my dining with him at Jizeh, all was completely Turkish. His Highness demeaned himself at table with all the elegance of an English dandy; and I now learned, for the first time, that it was some years since he had adopted many European customs in the interior of his household, although he retained those of his native country on all public occasions. A trace of Turkish manners was, however, still visible in the court remaining standing around him while he dined. One little delicate attention paid to me, I must not omit mentioning, as it was very remarkable in a Turk and a great man. He had ordered a *fauteuil* similar to his own to be brought for me; and when it appeared that no such one was to be procured in the town, he had his own taken away, and two simple rush-bottomed chairs placed at the table. Trivial as this matter may be thought, it still serves to give some idea of Mehemet Ali. I took advantage of the courteous temper he manifested towards me, to beg permission not only to accompany him on the water, but also for part of his journey of investigation into the interior, and this was immediately conceded. None but ordinary topics of conversation were touched upon until we were left alone, when it took a more confidential turn, and I had the satisfaction of hearing him express, with as much candour as warmth, his opinions on many important political questions. He displayed surprising acuteness in penetrating into the true dispositions and interests of European cabinets; and with respect to his own situation, it was evidently his conviction, that as long as the keystone of the building was wanting—as long as his sovereignty *de facto* did not also subsist *de jure*, it must be insecure;—and though he desires, before all things, peace and tranquillity, and has no wish for further aggrandizement, he will never willingly resign a single village of his present dominions, and will not shrink from war, if it should become necessary as a last resort.

With respect to mere pecuniary sacrifices, I believe it would be easy to induce him to make them to a considerable extent, if, by that means, he could reconcile an anomaly which threatens the peace of the West no less than of the East; and while it opposes a serious obstacle to his own plans for the benefit of his subjects, paralyzes no less the efforts of the Sultan.

I took this opportunity also to speak on the affairs of some of my friends,—among others, for Clot Bey, who had hitherto vainly solicited permission to remove the medical school from Abu-Zebel to Cairo—an undertaking of considerable expense. My request was at length granted, though the Viceroy at first opposed my arguments with some warmth; and I then took my leave. The town contains little that is remarkable, except a very well-furnished bazaar and a mosque, with a beautiful marble bath attached to it. It is an excellent and very general custom in the East, thus to associate some work of general utility with every religious building. One of the largest and most costly manufactories established by the Viceroy, was situated in Siout; but unfortunately the fanaticism of the inhabitants induced them to burn it down. Mehemet Ali made no attempt to punish the town for this outrage in any other way, than by leaving the building in its ashes, and removing the manufactory to another place. The Mamlukes, as is well known, when driven from Lower Egypt, made a stand for a long time in Siout; and the cemetery where they lie buried is like a little city of stately monuments, close under the Necropolis of the ancient Egyptians, who have hollowed out the rocks above like bee-hives. The burial places of the Mamlukes, like those of their

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I put off till my return my visit to the Necropolis, but was not prevented by the heat from taking a good gallop into the desert, on one of the Viceroy's swift horses, and then climbing a naked rock belonging to the Libyan chain, to obtain a better view of the lovely valley of the Nile. The mist which hung over it prevented me from attaining my object; but as I rode back I witnessed a truly national spectacle. Eight gigantic naked negroes were employed in dragging a buffalo out of the mud in which he had sunk up to his neck, and, like the *Athleta* of old, when they had got him out, they carried him on their shoulders to the dry land.

COMPREHENSIVE VIEWS OF THINGS.

HAVING naturally a very large mind, and hearing much praise of those whose minds are enlarged, I have taken an immense deal of pains to enlarge mine, and I don't think you will often meet with one much bigger. One of the principal means of enlarging the mind is taking comprehensive views of things. For this reason I have always avoided everything that is little, and mean, and narrow, and minute, and I have placed my intellectual eye, if I may so speak, in the attitude of seeing the whole of a subject at once. I am convinced that it is impossible to have just views of anything which is seen imperfectly, bit by bit, or by instalments, as a fly crawls over a column of a building. I very much admire that illustration of minute and inadequate knowledge; and in order to avoid the reproach of such a style of study, I have, for the most part, aimed with consummate diligence at a comprehensive and universal view of things in general. There is nothing that I abhor so much as pedantry, and nothing more decidedly conduces to pedantry than directing the attention exclusively to one subject or to any one part of a subject; therefore, to avoid this, I have usually given quite as much attention to one subject as to another, and quite as much study to one part of a subject as to another; so that no subject comes amiss, and I am as much at home in one science as in another. Indeed, I will defy any one to distinguish by my general style of conversation, what is my favourite or peculiar study. The fact is, I have none: but I pay an equal and cosmopolitical attention to all things. For this purpose, I find Encyclopædias, published in parts, exceedingly useful, and the transitions are very pleasant from one study to another, for change of employment is a kind of recreation, and it is refreshing to pass from Alchemy to Algebra, and from Algebra to Anatomy, thence to Arabic literature, Astronomy, and so on;—thus I take due care, by paying an equal attention to all things, to let no one predominate. Even when I was a boy at school, this towering genius of mine began to develop itself, but my master, who was an excessively narrow-minded man, and a person of very limited ideas, was altogether unable to enter into my grand views, or to comprehend the loftiness of my mind; and oftentimes, while I was speculating about things in general, would call me a great booby, and indignantly pinch my ears for not learning the rules of Syntax;—just as if man was gifted with an immortal soul merely to learn *Verbum personale concordat cum nominativo numero et personâ*. I was disgusted with the man's want of philosophy and comprehensiveness. But if I was ashamed of this man's narrow understanding, what think you, gentle reader, was my contempt for the fellow whose sordid employment was to teach me arithmetic? My forte was to regard things in general and to view them with a philosophic eye. I had no wish to be taught to count my fingers. Now, would you believe it possible that this earthly and grovelling creature had the insolence to laugh at me because I affirmed that three times nine made twenty-eight? I have since ascertained that three times nine make twenty-seven; and where, I would ask, is the mighty difference between twenty-seven and twenty-eight?—'tis only one—a miserable insignificant unit! So after all I was right within one, and my mistake was on the liberal side. I know not how to account for it, but even my father was infected with these narrow prejudices, and when I came home from school would fain examine me as to what he called my attainments, with all the jealousy of an

inquisitor-general. Now, to a person of comprehensive views there is something excessively revolting in an attention to insignificant and trifling minutiae, so that I answered my father rather shortly when he interrogated me on the subject of arithmetic, and insisted that a mind capable of taking comprehensive views of things could not easily and would not willingly stoop to trifles.

One great pleasure derived from taking comprehensive views of things is, the fine sensation which it gives one of superiority over the rest of mankind. It is indeed somewhat amusing to observe, how conceited some persons are of the accuracy of their little trumpery minute knowledge, and how they seem to triumph over their superiors, and to look down upon them. I had an opportunity of observing this in the conduct of a merchant, in whose counting-house I was placed soon after I left school. Among other things to which I had given some attention, of course was merchandise. I very much commend and approve that kind of national intercourse, which arises from the mutual exchange of superfluities, and I thought that my destined mercantile employer and tutor acted very wisely in exporting large quantities of hats for which he could find no use, and importing in their stead divers pipes of wine, which are very acceptable to the people of this kingdom; and when I took my seat in his counting-house I expatiated with much eloquence on the great principles of mutual exchange and mercantile accommodation. Now I declare to you, reader, on the word of an honest man, that I verily believe the merchant, though he evidently admired my eloquence, for he smiled approvingly at it, did not really understand the comprehensiveness of my views, for he made scarcely any reply, but set me to copy some bills and to cast up some figures in a book, and when I had done, instead of admiring and praising, he had the impudence to tell me that I had been very improperly and superficially instructed, and that I had need go to school again; and all this merely because I had omitted in my computation a few insignificant fractions of shillings and pence, and had set down the amount in a round sum, which to men of any comprehensiveness of feeling must, I think, be far more satisfactory than to be bothered and perplexed with odd pence or a few stray shillings. I took the liberty, however, to tell him that if he had the unreasonableness to expect that I should bend my powers down to the meanness and minuteness of calculating pence he had quite mistaken me, for I was resolved that I would not submit to anything so degrading, and so withering to the powers of the mind. Another matter too on which we had the misfortune to differ was the time of attending to the duties of the office. The merchant made a foolish fuss about punctuality. Punctuality at dinner I hold to be a virtue, because you can have a more comprehensive view of dinner when it is all upon table than when the guests have eaten it half up; and if a dinner waits, it spoils: but work will wait for you; and I cannot see why an invoice written at ten o'clock may not be quite as good as one written at nine. To be sure, the ship may have sailed, but then there will be another going in a day or two. It may be easily supposed that I could not long agree with a man whose views were so limited, therefore I found it expedient to look out for a profession in which I might exercise my mind and indulge my comprehensive powers. Shop-keeping, of course, was out of the question, for if a merchant who exports and imports by wholesale makes a fuss about a few odd shillings and pence, what would not a mean, narrow-minded, retail shop-keeper do? Law, physic, and divinity were open to me, but then I knew that in all those professions there was the impertinence of minute examinations to be encountered; and that is what I do from the bottom of my soul abhor. There is pedantry in all professions, and there is a little narrow exclusive feeling which leads the professors themselves to underrate every thing which belongs not to their own profession. This is detestable; and I feel assured that there is a general conspiracy in all professions against men of comprehensive views. Indeed I am convinced that nothing has so great a tendency to keep men of enlarged views out of the professions as these annoying and inquisitorial examinations. A very particular friend of mine, a man of most comprehensive mind, who had gone through his preliminary studies for the medical pro-

fession by reading novels in the lecture-room and smoking cigars in his lodgings, was cruelly denied his testimonials because he forgot on which side the heart was placed. But there was one profession open to me, the most liberal of all, viz. the literary profession, in which the comprehensiveness of my views might have full scope. Here no impertinent preliminary examinations stand sentinel, frightening away young ambition from an arena worthy of his powers. Here every one may approach every subject, and handle it as he pleases. A few errors are here most graciously and liberally overlooked. It is the general impression that is thought of, and not the insignificant minuteness of a wearisome accuracy. You may write a historical romance without being under a necessity of a minute attention to the absolute verity of dates, names and places: you are not subjected to an examination of any society of antiquarians or historiographers. You may write a novel about naval matters, without having been nearer the sea than Billingsgate; you may write a novel of fashionable life, though every part of the house between the garret and the kitchen be a *terra incognita* to you. You are not compelled to any painful or painstaking accuracy of delineation of men or manners; you may take only comprehensive views, and leave the minutenesses to men of little minds. In conversing with the editor of a periodical work which boasted of many contributors, I asked him whether he was ever at a loss for contributors or contributions. "Never," replied he; "scarcely a week passes but I have applicants ready to write; and when I ask them what they can write about, they say everything; and when I ask them what they understand, they say nothing."—These are, no doubt, men of comprehensive views, who think it beneath their dignity to stoop to minute and trifling matters. *Non omnia possumus omnes*, does not apply to authors.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

THE opening of Covent Garden Theatre on Monday next, under the management of Madame Vestris and her husband Mr. Charles Mathews, claims a prominent place in our Weekly Gossip, at a time when topics even of small talk are scarce. The arrangements, so far as we may judge from the brief announcement in the "preamble of the bill," appear calculated to ensure to the new management the favour which the previous one enjoyed—the countenance of all such as seek in the stage an elegant and intellectual gratification, but who are not prepared in their pursuit of it to sacrifice much personal convenience, and certainly not to subject themselves and families to witness such scenes as were incidental to a visit to the theatre under the old system. The audience part of the house has been re-decorated, and the "dress circle" is to realize its appellation, the seats being retained during the whole evening, for the use of those who secure them,—the admission to this tier is therefore restored to the old price, 7s.; while the price of admission to the upper tiers, the pit, and gallery continue the same as under the late management. The upper gallery is, however, abolished; the lower having been reduced from 2s. to 1s. 6d., the half-price to which is to be 1s. We, who are, on principle, in favour of good and cheap amusement for the working classes, regret that the old "shilling gallery" should be done away with in a theatre where the decorum of the audience, and the refined quality of the representations, would have a beneficial influence on the poorer play-goers, who might prefer paying 1s. for a bird's-eye view of a play of Shakspeare's at Covent Garden to a seat in the pit of the Adelphi or the Surrey. Nor do we like the idea of the class to whom the difference of a sixpence in the price of an evening's entertainment is of most importance, being excluded from their ancient roosting-place, whence they looked down upon the fairy-land of the stage glittering below, and caught sounds and sights of beauty, which supplied them with a stock of poetry for a month. At the Olympic the case was different; the gallery being there almost the best part of the house for seeing the performances,—certainly better than the side slips, which people paid double the price to occupy, under the name of boxes. The "shilling gallery," however, may be easily opened again—and we hope it will. The company is well

chosen for the performance of comedy and opera; consisting of the élite of the Olympic corps, grafted on to the principal comic and vocal strength of the late Covent Garden company. The selection of 'Love's Labour's Lost' for the opening night seems to imply a continuance of "Shakspearian revivals," this pleasant comedy not having been represented for many years. Of the "stage effects," the public are left to judge from their experience of the Olympic representations,—no puff preliminary having heralded the advent of the new management. Vestris will speak the opening address.

The Stationers of the metropolis are, we understand, taking steps for the formation of a society, on the plan of 'The Booksellers' Provident Institution,' with a permanent fund, fixed, we believe, at 10,000*l.*, for the relief of the large and respectable classes of persons connected with the various departments of the stationery business, their widows, and orphans. The scheme has met, as it deserved, with ready and universal support amongst the most influential members of the body,—and others taking an interest in the results, literary and artistic, to which the stationer is a necessary contributor. The preliminary arrangements are, we are informed, in a state of great forwardness,—and a public meeting will shortly be held for the purpose of adopting the rules and regulations under which the association is to be finally constituted.

A copy of the following letter has been forwarded to us, and, though marked "Strictly Confidential," we shall venture to let our readers have a peep at it:

"To Messrs. Baily & Co. 83, Cornhill, London.

"Dear Gentlemen,—A writer in the *Westminster Review*, at the end of a too favourable notice of my humble productions, has thought proper to allude to certain private letters of mine, sent under the seal of secrecy from Germany, and, moreover, has ventured to promise, on my behalf, a new version of the 'Pilgrims of the Rhine.'

"To say nothing of the presumption of entering for a race with the Bulwer—especially when he had enjoyed a start of some years, before I was thus announced as saddled—when, had he been a common hack instead of a flier, there had been time enough for him to have walked over the course backwards, besides going on the wrong side of the post, and yet to have come in a winner, as the kangaroo said after its fight with the long-armed baboon, by 'all sorts of lengths,' to say nothing of such a handicap as to weights, with that falsest of false starts an Anachronism—there were moral, physical, constitutional, and personal reasons against such a publication.

"As publishers, you are no doubt aware, that there is, or was, such a book as the 'Universal Letter Writer,' professing, like the 'Ready Reckoner,' and others of the same tribe, to furnish forms or figures for all the ordinary purposes of life. Now, even in the most ordinary occasions, I have never yet found that either my feelings, or intentions, or the circumstances, would adapt themselves to the printed pattern. As a natural consequence, I was invariably compelled to write my letters, as it is called, out of my own head; but, as a good deal of my own heart somehow always crept into such epistles, it has always seemed to me that parting with them for profit, would be next to, or rather worse than, selling my body.

"Some persons have undoubtedly intended their letters to come to light. Pope, for instance, wrote his celebrated Epistles expressly for the press. The same may be said of Swift, and others of literary renown, who, evidently, contemplated not a Two-penny, or a General, but an Universal Delivery. But such, on the contrary, is my own horror of seeing my correspondence in print, that, as my friends, male and female, are well aware, I never answer, even an invitation or a billet-doux—except in person.

"Thus, the reader who has taken the trouble to peruse my works must have observed, that, however apt to put the communications of others into type, I have been singularly shy of setting up any letters of my own. It is, perhaps, an excess of modesty on my part, but I cannot consider myself as a Corresponding Member of all Societies.

"In the mean time, my peculiar delicacy, as before hinted, does not forbid my editing any private papers which may fall into my hands; and accordingly, in that fashionable capacity, you may announce me as the Patron, or Foster-parent, or what you please, save Author, of a Collection of Letters, indited by a Family Party, on a tour up a very popular foreign River. I propose, as godfather, to christen the work, 'UP THE RHINE,' and, as one of the company draws a little, you may as well add, 'with Original Embellishments.'

"In the words of Beau Brummel, I beg leave to introduce to you a 'damp stranger,' i. e., a copy wet from the press; and a single sentence, with a few figures, will secure to you the whole Edition, from, dear gentlemen, yours very truly,
"THOMAS HOOD."

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DIORAMA, REGENT'S PARK.

This Establishment will be SHORTLY CLOSED for the Season.—The Pictures now exhibiting represent the CORONATION of HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA, in Westminster Abbey, and the INTERIOR of the CHURCH of SANTA CROCE, at Florence, with all the effects of Light and Shade from Noon till Midnight. Both Paintings are by LE CHEVALIER BOUTON.—Open from Ten till Five.

MISCELLANEA

Improvement of Musical Strings.—It has long been matter of regret that the strings of the harp, guitar, and violin, affected by the atmosphere or by the temperature of the apartment or theatre in which they were found, were liable to get out of tune, and produce discord, instead of "discouraging eloquent music." Some experiments were made, a few evenings ago, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, on strings prepared on a new plan. Their tones were much admired, and some admirable performances on the harp and guitar, by a young lady and Don Ciebira, certainly displayed them to the greatest advantage. It was shown that they could resist heat in an extraordinary degree, as, plunged in hot water, which instantly destroyed the common strings, they came out wholly uninjured.—*Mechanics' Magazine.*

The Wreck of the Royal George.—Colonel Pasley has been for some time engaged in an attempt to blow up the wreck of this vessel. Several small charges of 45*lb.* of powder each, and one of 260*lb.* have been exploded with effect, and masses of timber have been thus wrenched from the ship and hauled up. On Monday last, a cylinder, containing 2,400*lb.* of powder was lowered to the bottom, and placed alongside the most compact portion of the ship. When every thing was ready, according to an account in the *Chronicle*, the vessel in which the voltaic battery was placed was drawn off to the distance of 500 feet, which is the length of the connecting wires, and instantaneously on the circuit being completed the explosion took place, and the effects were very remarkable. At first the surface of the sea, which had before been perfectly smooth and calm, was violently agitated by a sort of tremulous motion, which threw it into small irregular waves, a few inches only in height. This lasted for three or four seconds, when a huge dome of water made its appearance, of a conical or rather bee-hive shape. At first it appeared to rise slowly, but rapidly increased in height and size till it reached the altitude of twenty-eight or thirty feet, in a tolerably compact mass. It then fell down and produced a series of rings, which spread in all directions. The first, or outer one of these, having the aspect of a wave several feet in height, curled and broke as if it had been driven towards the shore. Neither the shock nor the sound was so great as had been expected by those who had witnessed the former explosions by Col. Pasley, where the quantity of powder was only 45*lb.*; but the effect produced on the water at the surface, considering that the depth was ninety feet, was truly astonishing. What the effect has been upon the wreck will not be fully ascertained by the divers till the present spring tides are over, and the long periods of slack water at the neaps enable the divers to remain for upwards of half an hour under water.

Mersey Tunnel.—A meeting was lately held at Liverpool, for the purpose of forming a company to undertake to make a tunnel under the Mersey, to connect Liverpool with the Cheshire side of the river. Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Vignoles, and other eminent engineers, declared the undertaking practicable.—*Chester Chronicle.*

Whales.—In reply to our correspondent (No. 620) Mr. G. J. Fox observes, that the reference in his paper (No. 619) was to *spermaceti* whales,—that he himself mentioned to the meeting two captures of whales, made on the territories of the Bishop of Durham, one in 1260, the other in 1343,—but that there is no proof of a *spermaceti* whale having been taken on the British coast prior to those mentioned in his paper.

To CORRESPONDENTS.—S. W. P.—G. W. S.—received.—Our correspondent at Durham should order the *Athenæum* of his bookseller or news-agent. We only forward copies direct from our office on special request, and we then require payment in advance.

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